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Lutherans at Lund

BY CONRAD BERGENDOFF

IT WAS FITTING that the first Lutheran world gathering since the war should be held at Lund, Sweden. For the Scandinavian countries are preeminently Lutheran, and Lund was the site where the first archbishopric of the North was established. Its majestic cathedral was filled during the days of the conference, June 30-July 6, with men and women, white and yellow and brown, from all the continents. They represented various countries—more than thirty, and many cultures and races, drawn together by events of history now almost forgotten, and by bonds of faith which were strengthened by the fellowship of this event. In the brooding shadows of the towering trees of the campus and of the exalted arches of the cathedral an American participant in this memorable meeting found much to recall and more to remember.

The Church of Sweden was host to this unusual assembly, and its archbishop, Erling Eidem, served as chairman in his capacity as president of the Lutheran World Federation. Much is unique in the Swedish Church, and Lutherans of other lands caught a new meaning in this relationship of church and country which makes the Church of Sweden so distinctive. The new and the old meet here as hardly anywhere else in the world. The result of the blending makes the Sweden of today.

For instance, the cathedral and its services. Built 800 years ago it is a monument to the fact that the Lutheran Church conserved a great medieval heritage and in no sense disowns the treasures it holds in common with other churches as a gift from ancient Christendom. But unlike many other cathedrals which Protestantism took over at the

Reformation, Lund has been kept and improved and used, in all its splendor. This generation has seen the installation of a glorious mosaic in the ceiling of the apse above the altar. Here a modern Danish artist has wrought a masterpiece depicting the majesty of the Risen Christ. It is a piece deserving of its place in the unfinished sanctuary of this medieval structure, and represents the participation of a contemporary age in the rearing of the temple of God. At the altar the ministers are clothed in chasubles and bear other vestments which rival their medieval models—probably nowhere else in Evangelical Christendom does ecclesiastical art receive the attention given to it today by Swedish artists and workers. Yet from the ancient pulpit a message is proclaimed which has caught the ear of Christians of every land. For the teachers in theology at the University of Lund have interpreted with a new emphasis the gospel of the love of God. "Christus Victor" and "Agape" are household words now in all theological schools—they are words occurring in the titles of books by Lund theologians, one of whom, Gustav Aulén, is now Bishop of Strengnäs, the other, Anders Nygren, the new President of the Lutheran World Federation. And from the organ and choir in the rear of the cathedral came not only the great church music of the past, especially the music of the Lutheran musician par excellence, Bach, but also the medieval plainsong which the new Swedish hymnbook has incorporated to an unusual degree, and compositions by the present masters of church music in Sweden—works which were rendered by choir, organ, and orchestra in a way which transported the vast congregation from this sordid world to the very threshold of the altar of the Eternal. Certain schools of Lutherans object to the designation "Protestant" as too negative, as if the virtue of the Church lay in protest only. Certainly Lund gave ample testimony that Lutheranism has deep and ancient resources and that within its history and faith lies a positive and rich message which needs assertion in the present world.

In many other ways this Church of Sweden is different, not only from sister Protestant denominations but from Lutheran bodies. Here is one of the few churches which retained its episcopal form after the Reformation. Indeed, even its line of bishops continued in unbroken succession, so that the Swedish Church could boast of the apostolic succession on which other churches lay so much emphasis, but this Church has never considered it essential. Of more importance is the fact that Swedish bishops in the past have been the means whereby the Church has resisted the encroachments of the State. The Church has maintained an independence in religious matters which is without parallel in other Protestant countries. It has today in the Church Convocation an organ for managing its own affairs which has made it pos-

sible to adjust the Church to changing conditions without parliamentary dictation or interference. The term "State Church" can be applied to the Swedish Church only with a great deal of qualification which careless observers do not understand. Within the Church the term "folk church" is preferred, and there is justification for it. For the character of the Church is determined not only by its legal connections with the State, but even more by its ministry to the people. So valuable are even the routine duties of the Church that when they have had the power to do so, the opponents of the "State Church" have not taken steps to disestablish it. And within the Church today there is a freedom and an activity which much resemble the ministrations of churches that have no legal sanctions.

Even so routine a matter as that of church records demonstrates what the Church-State relationship has meant in the social life of the nation. For three or four centuries the clergy has kept a careful record of the births, confirmations, marriages, deaths of every individual in all the parishes of Sweden. It has been claimed that no country has a more complete record of its people. The student of sociology knows what this means in understanding the social life of a people. This cataloguing becomes irksome, and many chafe under it. But it gives the Church a knowledge of the total population which few "free" churches possess. And the system does give the ministry a sense of responsibility for the whole community which the pastor of a select group can easily escape.

Many a visitor to Sweden has remarked on the beauty of the church buildings but noted that the attendance at services is poor. If this were the only criterion one might question the vitality of the Church. But a closer observation will reveal the many channels through which the Church reaches the thinking of the people. It is especially in the schools that the traditional influence continues. In every schoolroom the daily work begins with Scripture reading, singing of hymns, and prayer. What would not the churches of America give for such a recognition of the place of religion in public education? Every morning at a quarter before eight o'clock the Swedish radio, and in Sweden there is only one program at a time, carries devotional exercises into tens of thousands of homes throughout the land. Baptism is not compulsory, but the Bishop of Stockholm told me that ninety per cent of the children in the city are brought to the baptismal font, and among the ten per cent are included those who believe in adult baptism. Likewise confirmation is still the usual practice. The number of civil marriages is declining, that of marriage by the clergy increasing. In the realm of youth work, adult education, social service, devotional literature, there is intense activity. No informed observer will speak of a declining Church in Sweden.

It is my opinion, after many years of intimate contact with the religious movements in Sweden and a life-long interest in Sweden and its history, that more than the modern Swedish man or woman is aware, the best in Swedish character is a fruit of the Church. It would be hard to disassociate the high estate which education enjoys from the Church and its constant emphasis on learning. Love of order and of beauty have had powerful support from the Church. To do one's work as in the sight of the Lord is to set a high standard for craftsmanship, and it is in the homes of the pious peasantry that the art of honest work has flourished. The Swedish people have ever been hospitable—in our day their name has been blessed all over the world for care of the refugees and wrecks of war. Not only have millions of dollars of food and clothes gone abroad, but tens of thousands of children from war-torn lands have been brought here to find temporary shelter and care. Such charity does not grow in uncultivated ground. For centuries the Church has taught the principles of neighborliness and inculcated the virtues of brotherly help. I do not think it erroneous to trace the social consciousness which has distinguished Sweden in today's world to the message which the people of Sweden have heard proclaimed from cradle to grave throughout the generations. The fruits of the past work of the Church are now apparent. It ought to be clear that such fruits can continue only if the tree is cultivated and the roots carefully tended.

These reflections on Swedish conditions are not out of place in recording the Conference at Lund, for the purpose of the gathering was to assess the message and task of the Church in the world of today. What the task is, these delegates from the four corners of the earth were competent to judge. The Norwegians could tell, as well as the Danes and the French, what occupation by Hitler's soldiers had done to a country. One of the notable statements of the meeting was the assertion of Bishop Berggrav that it may be a bit presumptuous for the Christian Church to say it is the conscience of a nation, but it is entirely correct to claim that the Church must be the guardian of justice in a land when the state has failed in that capacity. Many who do not understand the genius of the Lutheran Church might well ponder this forthright declaration that there are instances where the Church has the right and the duty to rebel against civil authority. Bishop Hans Lilja of Germany could also speak from experience of the conflict between the Eternal Gospel and the contemporary state. He had paid for his resistance to Nazi pretensions, but prison only confirmed his faith in the power of the Gospel to maintain itself over against the most powerful of military machines. Many another at Lund could testify of the resources of faith in times when all seemed lost. There were the Balts,

in exile, without a homeland, refugees in hospitable lands but fearful lest they be returned to vengeful Russia. Poles, Austrians, Finns, Hungarians, knew not what the political winds might bring. But in their churches they found comfort and fellowship. From China and from India, delegates brought news of the constructive work of the Church amid the tragedy of civil war. A cross-section of the world was here, but a spirit of peace and brotherhood characterized this gathering of the nations.

For the problems of the peoples were seen at Lund in the light of a sovereign message which put the sovereignty of nations in a subordinate place. There was no disagreement over the document which proclaimed that the true treasure of the Church is the Gospel of a Lord who forgives in order that men and nations may live according to love and righteousness. The duty of the Church is to resist any movement, political or cultural, which puts man in God's place, or raises human nations to the level of authority occupied only by the Word of God. In his communion with God man finds the strength he needs for the tasks of the day. The Lund Conference considered these tasks, and concluded that the Gospel is supremely relevant to the life of the parish, to the educational and social structure of nations, and, not least, to the relationships between nations. The best of modern Western society grew up under the sponsorship of the Church in past centuries. If Western civilization is to be preserved and life within and between nations improved and ennobled, the Christian Church must again become the home and hearth of all the peoples.

The next assembly of the Lutheran World Federation was set for 1952, in the United States. It will be the first time such a meeting will be held in the New World. Previous sites have been Eisenach (1923), Copenhagen (1929), and Paris (1935). The center of gravity also for the Lutheran Church is shifting. The war has affected this Church more than any other Protestant body because it has been the largest and most widely diffused. Today a heavy shadow lies over all the European countries. The Scandinavian is the strongest element in European Lutheranism. But gradually a powerful Lutheran Church has been growing in America. In these post-war years the National Lutheran Council in the United States has collected millions of dollars for relief in the devastated areas and become the source of guidance in the rebuilding of shattered congregations. Naturally Europeans are seeking to know more of their fellow-churchmen in America.

American Lutherans can be divided roughly into three large groups, each aggregating more than a million members. The first is the United Lutheran Church which takes its name from a merger in 1918 of three

old groups, mainly in the Eastern and Southern States. The nucleus of this group was made up of the large German immigration in the 17th and early 18th centuries into the Middle Atlantic States, and in this group the memory of the patriarch Muhlenberg is revered—in 1948 the Muhlenberg bicentennial will be observed in Pennsylvania. Today the United Lutheran Church extends over the whole nation, but its strength is still in the East, and its headquarters in New York. The second large group is also of German origin, but is made up of a more recent immigration, and its center is in Missouri, whence the name, the Missouri Synod. This Synod celebrated its centennial this year. It is a part of a larger grouping, called the Synodical Conference, but the Missouri Synod is the dominant member. Until very recent years the German language has been the language of worship. The Synod is known for its very conservative theology and for its unwillingness to have fellowship with other bodies who differ in doctrine from it.

Between these two large segments of American Lutheranism is a series of smaller bodies loosely connected in the American Lutheran Conference. These include the churches founded by the immigrants from all the Scandinavian countries and churches of German origin which have for various reasons not united either with the United Lutheran Church or the Missouri Synod.

Throughout the past century Norwegian Lutherans combined in several organizations until a couple of decades ago when the large majority formed a united body which now bears the name of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. One smaller group of Norwegians remained outside the merger and is known as the Lutheran Free Church. In 1948 the Augustana Synod will mark its centenary. This body contains the congregations founded by Swedish immigrants to America, and the name is the Latin form of "Augsburg," the city in which Lutherans in 1530 drew up the statement of faith known as the Augsburg Confession to which the Lutherans of the world still adhere. Danish churches also belong to the American Lutheran Conference, whose other member is the American Lutheran Church, a group of German-origin congregations in the Middle West who have been unable to agree with the Missouri Synod on doctrinal points and yet have not been ready to join the more liberally-minded United Lutherans. In the main, the strength of the Conference bodies lies in the Middle West, and since the First World War the English language has taken the place of the German and Scandinavian tongues which were native to the founders.

Despite all the different elements entering into American Lutheranism, the Church has attained a very high degree of unity. Probably no

Protestant denomination in America is more at one in its doctrinal teaching. A common hymnbook and a common form of worship are in the making. The extension of the work at home and abroad has been coordinated through a number of agencies, and the National Lutheran Council is gradually becoming a clearinghouse and directing force for all the manifold activities carried on by united efforts of the churches.

All the American Lutheran bodies were represented at Lund, even the Missouri Synod, though through unofficial observers. It was noticeable that the influence of the European Lutherans was predominant in the discussions where doctrine and theory were crucial, but that in the sessions where practical problems were to the fore the Americans were in the leadership. This does not mean that Americans are not interested in theology—quite the contrary, as a lengthening list of translations from the German and the Scandinavian testify. But the younger churches are ready to learn from the older in this field. On the other hand, there is an apparent eagerness among European Lutherans to learn of their American brethren how the Church can function in a society where it cannot rely on the government for prestige or financial aid. Because the churches in America are themselves children of the European, their members can understand the present plight of the elder institutions. Thus an organization such as the Lutheran World Federation becomes a means in bringing Europe and America closer together and in consolidating the spiritual forces on which Western civilization at present so desperately depends for its survival.

This question of the enduring quality of the past in the cyclonic movements of the present remains the dominant memory of the Conference at Lund. Representatives of the victors and of the vanquished were gathered here, together with silent victims of the greatest human catastrophe known to man. A decade ago some of these delegates had been at Oxford and at Edinburgh, the last great Christian assembly before the dread events which made world conferences impossible until this summer of 1947. The somber background at Lund made the tone of the conference serious and earnest. But while storm raged without, within the cathedral there dwelt a peace which was born of faith in One who understood the problems of man and had revealed a life triumphant even in the shadows of death. Lutherans at Lund came away deepened in their conviction that for mankind hope still lives, and confirmed in their faith that nothing can prevail over the sacrificial love of God.

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Sweden's Public Health System

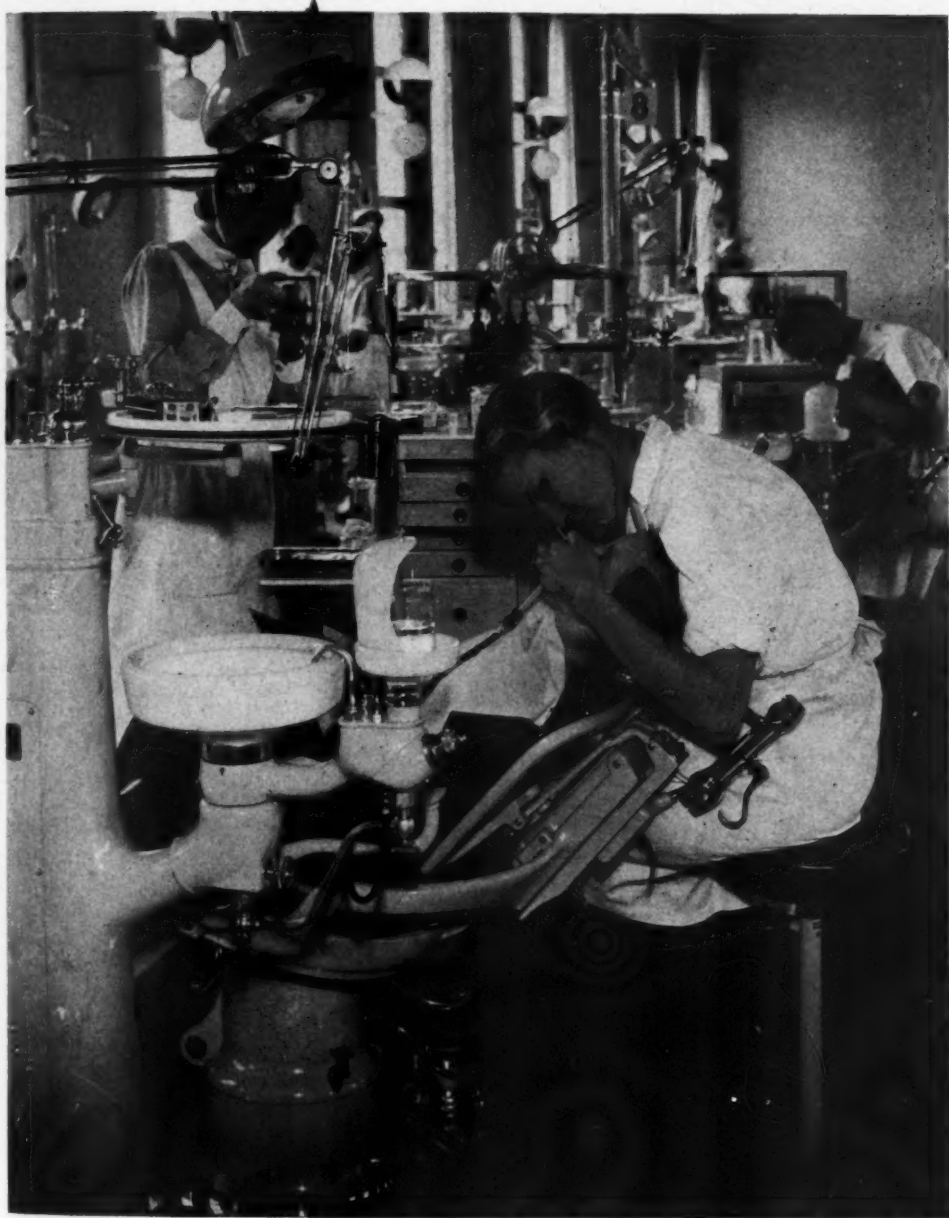
BY ARVID MYRGÅRD

*Illustrations and Translation by The American-Swedish
News Exchange*

A GOOD TEST of the social standard achieved by a nation is the interest shown in public health. In recent years more and more measures to improve medical care and promote better public health have been adopted in all civilized countries. The great advances in medicine made during the same period have aided, of course, in making this improvement in public health possible. A better understanding of the importance of public health, both from an economic and population point of view, has also been gained. A Swedish economist has recently proved by statistics, for instance, that illness costs the country on the average at least one and a quarter billion kronor a year.

That Sweden, together with the other Scandinavian countries, ranks high in the promotion of better public health is generally known. This is no cause for idle boasting. All kinds of progress in social welfare must necessarily be slow in times of war and disaster, and an important reason for Sweden's high rating in living standards as well as in social welfare work is the fact that for over one hundred and thirty years it has enjoyed unbroken peace. It must also be borne in mind that Sweden is a small, homogeneous nation of not quite seven million people. Since the establishment of the compulsory public school system in 1842, the educational level of the country has also been gradually raised. Opportunities for all to share in this cultural and social progress have thereby multiplied. These improvements, as well as the peaceful political development, based on democratic ideals and a gradual obliteration of class distinctions, have made it easier to solve the various social welfare problems, of which public health is one of the most important.

The ruling principle in the Swedish social welfare legislation has been that no citizen shall suffer want. For himself and his family the individual must, of course, assume responsibility as far as he is able, but because of illness, old age, or unemployment, or other causes over which he has no control, he may, however, find himself unable to fulfill this duty. Under such circumstances the community considers itself



*FREE DENTISTRY AT THE GEORGE EASTMAN DENTAL
INSTITUTE IN STOCKHOLM*

obligated to come to his and his family's aid, while at the same time helping him regain his earning capacity as quickly and as fully as possible.

In recent years preventive medical care has been decidedly improved in Sweden. A major reason has been the re-population problem. During the first thirty-five years of this century the decline in birth rate was very marked, so that in 1934 Sweden had the dubious honor of showing the lowest in the world. That this was a serious situation was obvious. A sensational but well documented book by Gunnar and Alva Myrdal, entitled, "The Re-Population Crisis," focused public attention on it. Under Government auspices a thorough check-up led to legislative enactments designed to produce an increased birth rate. Among them were: low rate public loans to newly-weds for housekeeping equipment, financial aid in maternity cases, financial assistance for improvements in housing, and municipal construction with Government aid of special apartment houses for large families in needy circumstances, in which the rents are reduced in proportion to the number of minor children. The precise effect of these laws is difficult to determine, but the fact is that since 1935, when most of them were enacted, the birth rate has almost steadily gone up. In 1945, for instance, the number of births per thousand inhabitants was 20.4, or about the same as in the United States; the 1946 figure was 19.5. The simultaneous increase in the number of marriages has naturally helped improve the birth rate, but the number of children per family has also gone up. Perhaps the whole credit should not be given to the Government aid, even if it has helped. Idealistic considerations such as a feeling of greater responsibility for the future of the nation have undoubtedly played in.

In Sweden, as in most civilized countries, the number of children per family has traditionally been in inverse proportion to family income; the poorer the family, the greater the number of children. In recent years there has been a marked tendency toward more children in middle-class families, even though the sharp increases in the cost of living have seriously affected this group.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM

The Public Health administration in Sweden includes supervision over sanitary conditions and preventive medicine as well as direct medical care. Traditionally, the last named has been the object of the greatest attention, while secondary importance was attached to the first. As the value of preventive medicine became more and more clearly recognized, the situation changed. In the past few years an increasing num-



AT THE GOVERNMENT BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY IN STOCKHOLM A WORKER IS KEEPING STATISTICAL CHARTS OF THE SPREAD OF INFANTILE PARALYSIS IN SWEDEN

ber of persons have been employed in supervising public health protection. As regards the relation between medical care and public health, Sweden occupies a fairly unusual position. To a great extent doctors and nurses who are engaged in public health work also have charge of medical care. To aid them in this double duty, the country is divided into about four hundred districts, in which both functions are assigned to public health officers, who are also physicians, each being assisted by two graduate health district nurses. Only the larger cities, in which



AN ELECTRO-MICROSCOPE AT THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR
PHYSICS IN STOCKHOLM

the medical work is done by regular practising physicians, are outside the jurisdiction of these health district officers.

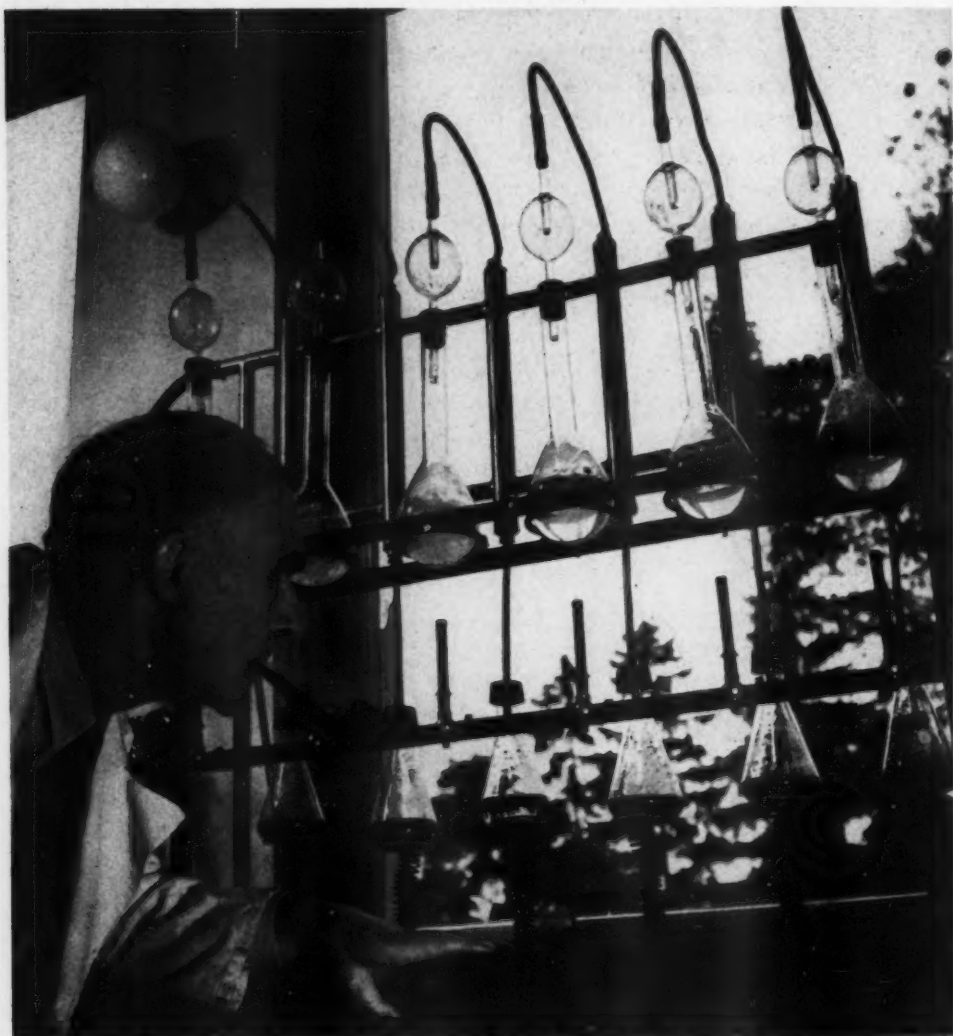
In return for fixed nominal fees the district physician (*provinsial-läkare*), who is also a Government official, must render medical service to the inhabitants of his district. Thus a routine consultation costs less than a dollar. Aside from such care of the sick, he is required to supervise public health conditions, the care of infants and young children, as well as expectant mothers. He is often responsible for the preventive tuberculosis work in his district and is obliged to give treatment to



*PREPARING SERUM AT THE GOVERNMENT BACTERIOLOGICAL
LABORATORY IN STOCKHOLM*

persons infected with venereal diseases. In most districts he is likewise in charge of health supervision in the public schools. All such preventive medical work, including treatment of tubercular and venereal cases, is rendered free of charge. Obviously, the amount of work and the responsibilities assigned to the district physician are considerable. To alleviate his tasks there is therefore a tendency to reduce the size of the various districts. The current plan is to cut them down to between four and five thousand inhabitants each.

Since health control and medical care are closely allied, the combined



DISTILLATION IN THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

administration of these two phases of social welfare seems a happy solution in a country as thinly populated as Sweden. Physicians and nurses who have gained the confidence of the inhabitants of their districts are in a strong position to propose or institute improvements in public hygiene. In Sweden as a matter of fact this double function has far-reaching historical traditions. An official instruction to district physicians issued as long ago as in 1720 required them to pay attention to the living habits of the people and to correct insanitary conditions as well as to minister to the sick.

For general administrative purposes Sweden is divided into twenty-four districts (*Län*), each with an appointed governor or administrative officer (*Landshövding*) and a local legislature (*Landsting*), the members of which are popularly elected. All matters relating to health control and the care of the sick come under the jurisdiction of this *Landsting* which, likewise, has to cover the administrative expenses. When necessary, the *Landsting* may apply to the national government for assistance in meeting the cost of public health supervision and medical services, including some kinds of hospitals.

METHODS OF HEALTH SUPERVISION

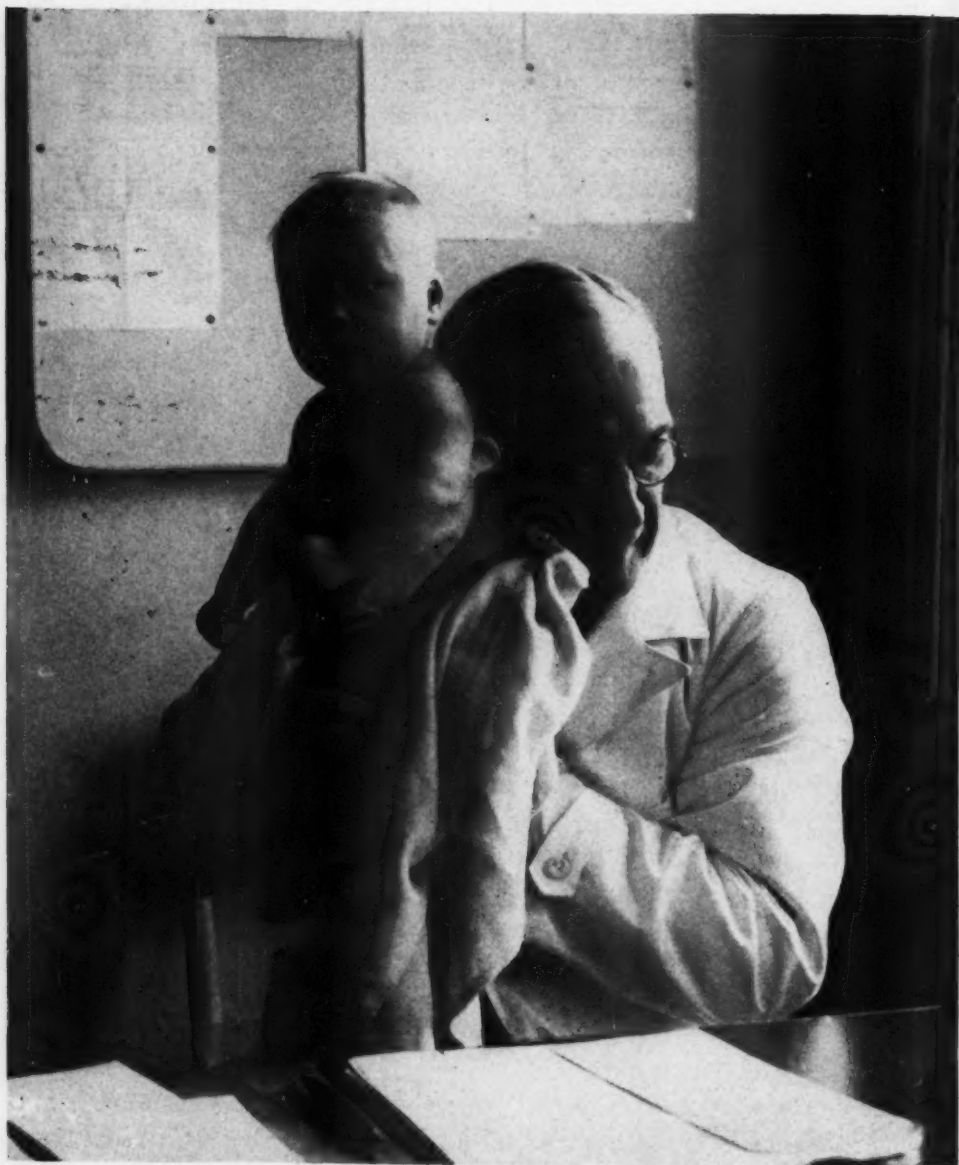
Care of Mothers and Infants

Preventive medical care for both mothers and infants is now provided throughout the country, mainly through the health officers in the rural districts and the public clinics with medical specialists in the larger cities. Persons living too far away from the central health stations may be treated at the branch clinics or have their fares paid, if necessary, to the nearest urban health centers. Organized better health campaigns have had good effect.

At present eighty-two per cent of all newly-born infants are registered at the special child-health centers, where they are brought for periodic inspections. This proportion obtains in the rural as well as the urban areas. In pre-natal care such satisfactory results have not yet been attained, but it is estimated that between sixty and seventy per cent of all expectant mothers now avail themselves of this free medical service. Particular attention is given to infants; during their first few months they are closely watched by the district nurses, who pay frequent visits to their homes to supervise their feeding as well as the maintenance of proper hygiene. As a matter of comparison, it may be noted that in the United States only between five and ten per cent of all babies are registered at infant welfare clinics. The Swedish infant mortality rate is among the lowest in the world. In 1945 it was 26.3 per 1,000 births, compared with about 38 in the United States. In Sweden, in 1920, the figure was about 60.

Health Care of School Children

Since Government financial aid began to be granted in 1944, more and more schools have joined each year in the public health program. During the academic year 1945-46, 84.5 per cent of all Swedish children of school age were included in the preventive medicine program. As in the mother-and-child clinics, those considered in need of vitamins



A BABY IS GIVEN A FREE EXAMINATION AT A STOCKHOLM HOSPITAL FOR INFANTS

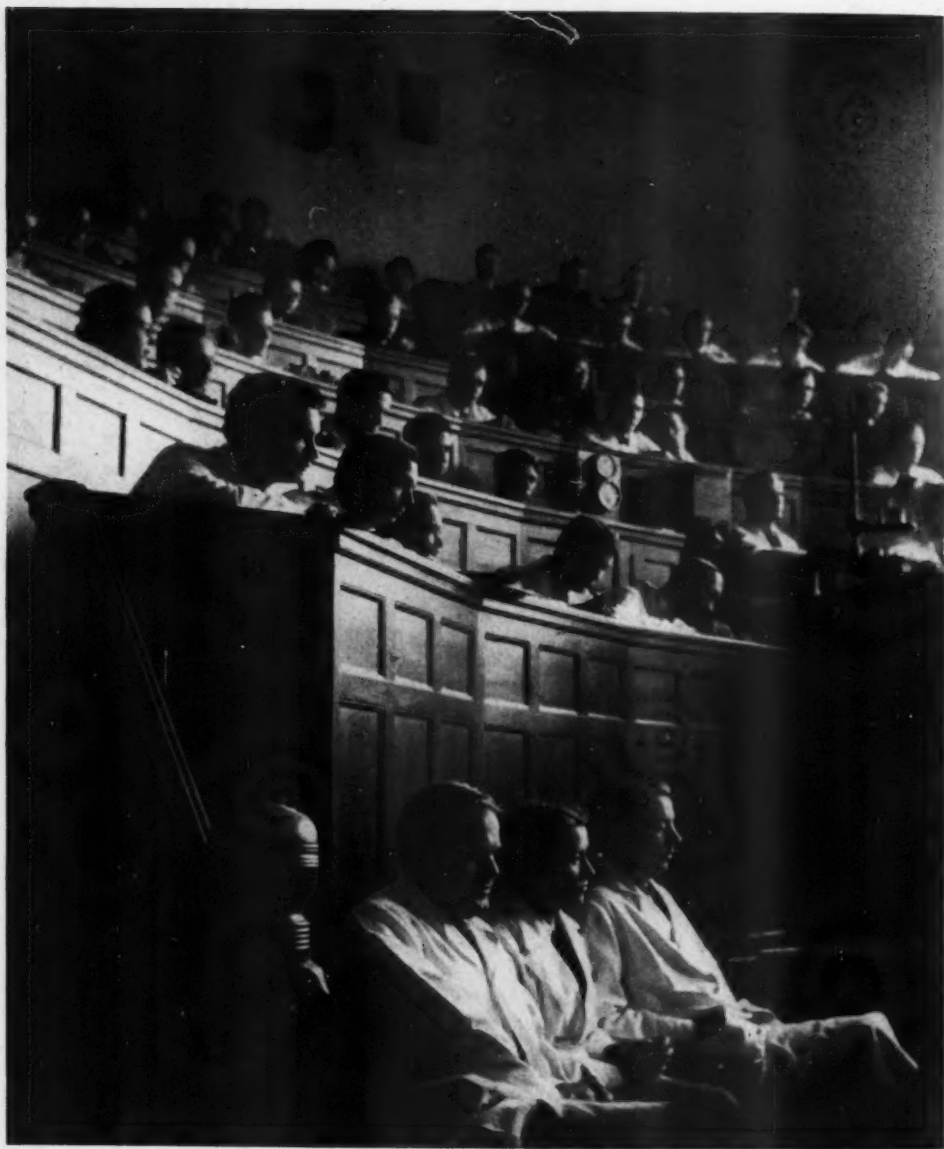
or iron or other preventive medical compounds received such free of charge. The health supervision program also includes systematic tuberculin tests and voluntary vaccinations against tuberculosis. The school physician, aided by the teachers as well as by the district nurse, watches the children's mental condition. According to a law enacted in 1944, all feeble-minded children must be segregated and placed in special institutions, where they are given proper instruction with manual training until they are from eighteen to twenty-one years of age. For "problem children" there are in each district special child psychologists to whom the teachers may refer cases for examination and treatment.

Free school lunches for all children may be considered part of the child health care program. Communities wishing to supply such lunches may obtain special grants from the Government, but must in return provide suitable and truly nourishing meals. Government aid may also be obtained for day nurseries in which mothers working outside their homes may have their children cared for part of the time. For such nurseries specially trained personnel is provided.

The medical superintendent of the school health program is a prominent physician appointed by the National Education Board.

The Fight Against Tuberculosis

In each Län there are one or more central dispensaries which by various preventive measures conduct the battle against tuberculosis. By the subsidiary district health stations, persons suspected of being infected are referred to the central agencies for closer examinations which are given free of charge. These centers also conduct systematic campaigns against the disease, testing whole population groups such as school children, factory employees, etc. The National Medical Board, the country's highest authority in public health, has recently begun such a campaign on a nation-wide scale. Ultimately, it hopes to have every inhabitant of the country examined. Stamping out the disease among cattle is part of the program. All dairies are urged to have their milk pasteurized, but since there is no legal compulsion unpasteurized milk is still sold in some parts of the country. In 1946 some 200,000 vaccinations against tuberculosis were given, chiefly in the public schools. Several maternity hospitals have adopted the practice of inoculating babies against tuberculosis immediately upon birth. According to the latest statistics, Sweden's mortality rate from this disease in 1946 was 50 per hundred thousand inhabitants. In 1920 it was 165. For the United States, the 1940 figure was 45.8.



A MEDICAL LECTURE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF LUND

Control of Venereal Diseases

Under a law passed in 1918, the first in the world, all persons infected with a venereal disease must report to a health officer, and are, in return, entitled to free treatment. All physicians, whether private or public, must report all cases of such infections to the public authorities who then must try to identify the source. It is largely due to this law that the prevalence of such diseases in Sweden is now among the lowest on record anywhere in the world. During the war, when there was a big influx of refugees, the number of cases went up considerably. In 1944, the reported number of cases of syphilis in the whole country was 1,323 and those of gonorrhea 19,500, equivalent to 20 cases of syphilis and 290 of gonorrhea per 100,000 inhabitants. For the first half of 1946, the figures were 19 and 204 per 100,000, compared with 285 and 292, respectively, in the United States.

Dental Care

Government aid for better dental care, an important branch of public health work, was provided under a law passed in 1938. In securing enough trained dentists for this work difficulties were at first encountered and an adequate number are not yet available, but relatively satisfactory results have nevertheless been achieved. In theory the law prescribes complete dental care for all school children free of charge or in some cases at the nominal fee of three dollars a year. Even to adults and children below school age the services are rendered at extremely low rates. The school dentists give their whole time to this work on the basis of an annual salary paid by the local district government (*Länsstyrelsen*). Gradually, it is hoped, the service can be extended to the whole nation, adults as well as children.

Housing Inspection

Systematic public inspection of all housing is another function closely related to the public health. In Sweden it is compulsory in all cities and other larger communities and must be made at fixed intervals. The local boards of health are held responsible for this work, but health officers and public health nurses must also pay attention to the housing conditions in their respective districts.

MEDICAL CARE

Care of the sick in hospitals or sanatoria is provided by the local governments, principally those of the various districts (*Län*) but in the larger cities by the municipalities, which for this purpose have their

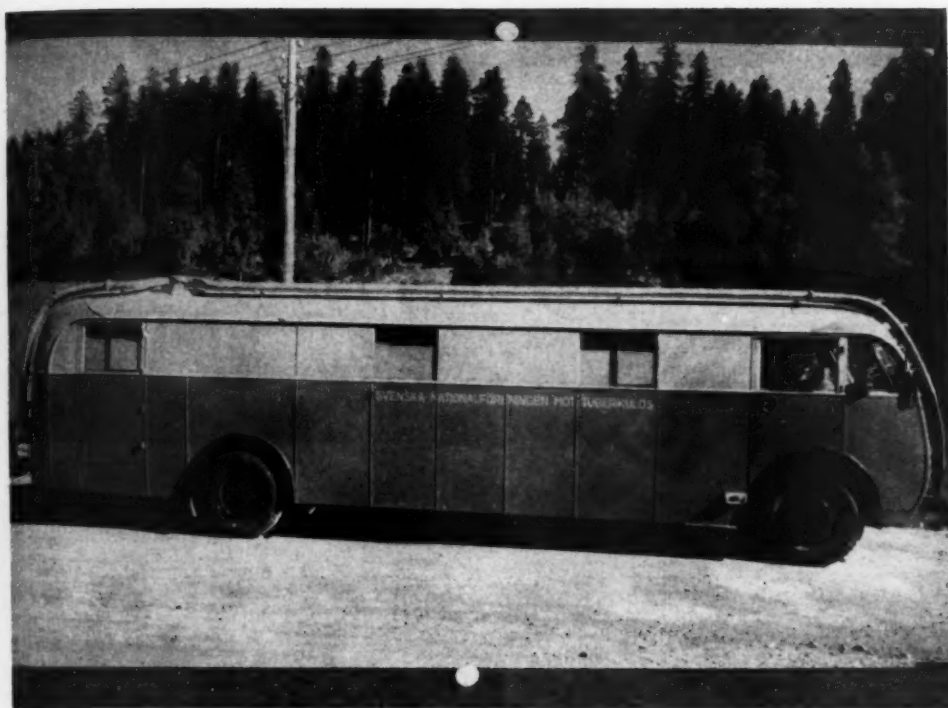


AFTERNOON SIESTA IN A SWEDISH CHILDREN'S SANATORIUM

own institutions. Extreme cases of mental disorder are treated in state or national institutions. In each Län there is a hospital center with special clinical sub-divisions attached to it. In the smaller cities the hospitals usually have only one to three departments: Surgery, Medicine, and X-ray.

Swedish hospitals are run on a somewhat different basis than, for instance, those in the United States. Whenever a private physician refers a patient to a hospital, the resident hospital physician takes over the care and treatment of the patient. Not until he has been discharged from the hospital may a patient return, if he so desires, to his private physician. From the hospital the latter may then obtain extracts from the case history with records of diagnosis and treatment.

Thanks to the remuneration offered by the hospitals, the highest grade of medical specialists seek employment in them. Throughout the country the public hospitals maintain very high standards. Costs, moreover, are very low. Full care in a ward may be had for as little as a dollar a day. If the patient is insured in one of the mutual sick-benefit societies, all costs are covered by such insurance. Care in private rooms is somewhat more expensive or up to three dollars a day, besides which



X-RAY BUS OF THE SWEDISH ASSOCIATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

a fixed nominal fee is payable to the hospital physician. If a ward patient, for example, is operated upon for appendicitis, and can leave the hospital within six days, the total cost of the operation would be about five dollars. For a semi-private room it would be twenty to forty, and for a private room thirty to seventy-five dollars. In the private hospitals, of which there are only a few, the costs are inevitably higher.

Government aid is not now given to hospitals that are run by the local or municipal authorities. It is, however, given to nursing homes or sanatoria for the chronically or incurably ill and more and more of these are continually being erected. Such institutions have an important function to fill inasmuch as they relieve pressure on the regular hospitals as well as on the private homes.

In the rural districts out-patient care is furnished by the district physicians and the district nurses; in the cities by doctors in private practice. In the hospitals there are also public polyclinics to which more and more people apply for help. Medical care is now available at these clinics for persons in all income groups and the fixed fees are very low, or about \$1.50 for an ordinary consultation. Private physicians may

also submit various kinds of specimens for expert analysis in the hospital laboratories.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED HEALTH INSURANCE FUNDS

In the public health work in Sweden the mutual health insurance societies or sick benefit funds play an important role. Each year their sphere of activities increases until now about 2.5 million people belong to them. In case of illness the members get cash benefits for the support of their families as well as compensation for medical expenses for themselves or for children, up to two-thirds of the amount paid out. Under a new law passed in 1946 such health insurance will become obligatory for the whole nation after 1950. Since there is already a decided shortage of doctors, the medical corps looks forward with a certain trepidation to the increased demands on its services that are sure to be caused by this reform.

COMPULSORY VACATIONS WITH PAY

Every science continuously finds new fields for its research workers, and medical discoveries are applied more and more to everyday life. Between the capacity to work on the one side and fatigue and rest on the other, both physiologists and psychologists see, as is well-known, a clear connection. In other words, they regard regular vacations for all working human beings as very beneficial. The vacation law adopted in Sweden in 1938 is now regarded as of great benefit both to workers and to their employers. Under this law every employee who has held his job for at least 180 days is entitled to one day off for each month of work. Later amendments have extended the vacations due in certain occupations as well as in various age groups. The law has caused a decided increase of interest in outdoor life, which, from a public health point of view, is most desirable.

GROUP INTERESTS OF DOCTORS AND NURSES

Shortage of Nurses

Each year the work of nurses stands out as a more and more important factor in public health work. The training received by a nurse in return for her work at a hospital makes her unusually competent, and to her is due a great deal of the credit for making the modern hospital more attractive to the patients as a place of treatment than their own homes. The admirable cleanliness maintained in all Swedish hospitals must also be credited to her. The duties assigned to a public health



*STOCKHOLM'S NEWEST HOSPITAL, SÖDERSJUKHUSET,
INAUGURATED IN 1944*

nurse are likewise heavy. By devoting herself to the care of the sick as well as to public health, she comes into very close contact with the people of her district. In her work she occupies a very independent position and, in general, she has shown herself fully capable of holding it. The fact that it has been possible to carry out the ambitious Swedish public health program as fully as has been done is to a great extent her desert.

Unfortunately, the salaries of Swedish nurses have not kept up with those paid for other work requiring the same amount of preparation. This is probably the main reason for the prevailing shortage of qualified nurses. Because of this shortage, many hospitals have had to close some of their units, and in the summer of 1947 there were at least six hundred vacancies in public health nurse positions. A readjustment of the salaries paid nurses seems necessary and negotiations to that end are under way.

The Doctors' Difficult Position

Doctors are the principal practitioners of both private and public health care. On the relationship among the authorities, the pub-

lic itself, and the doctors depends the success of any public health program. In Sweden as well as in the United States it must not be forgotten that the medical profession is one of the free occupations and that in order to give his best efforts for the benefit of society, the doctor must find a certain satisfaction in his work. Medical practice is entirely too personal to be circumscribed by too rigid regulations. On the other hand, it is equally incontestable that the doctor exists for the benefit of mankind and not vice versa. He is not a superman and must not claim a privileged position in society. If these principles are not observed, conflicts are sure to follow.

To clarify for an American public the situation in Sweden in this respect is not easy. Emphasis must be made on the point that in Sweden, as in the United States, doctors who devote themselves wholly to public health work receive much lower compensation than those in private practice. This is wrong. The public health specialist's work is just as important as that of the private physician. By specializing he has had to spend much capital on his professional training.

During a recent tour of the United States, the writer often heard expressed the belief that an increasing number of hospital clinics would deprive physicians in private practice of a large share of their potential income. The experience gained in Sweden tends to show that such fears are unjustified. Clinics are intended as a means of checking up on public health. Through the infant welfare clinics, for instance, it has been shown that the private physicians have received an increasing number of patients, because by visiting these clinics the mothers have become more interested in the health of their children.

The Swedish physicians have loyally taken over the increased work required by the social welfare reforms, and so far no important cases of frictions have made such cooperation difficult. In recent years the problem of socialized medicine has been discussed, and naturally sharp opposition has been expressed by members of the medical corps. It is to be hoped that any such transition will be postponed for a long time to come. The experience with the full-salaried public dentists has not been wholly satisfactory. At the same time, it is proper to call attention to the fact that, under the present system, Swedish health and medical services have gained a high position among the nations of the world.

Dr. Arvid Myrgård is district physician at Löberöd in the South of Sweden.



Páll Jónsson

Steam rises from lava melting the snow against a black column of ashes. The rough foreground is a field of new lava

Mount Hekla Erupting

BY HELGI P. BRIEM

THE FARMER AT Ásólfssstaðir was getting up at 6.50 on the morning of March 29, when his two-story frame house suddenly gave a sickening jerk. When he looked out of his bedroom window towards Hekla, which dominates the view, a slight wisp of smoke rose from the crater of the conical volcano. An instant later a column of dust, rocks, stones, and gases shot up in the air as if fired from a cannon. The gases were fiery hot and clear as they were shot into the air, but as they mingled with the atmosphere they produced a column of steam.

At the same time a deafening report was heard, followed by a series of reports that made the windowpanes rattle.

Hekla, one of the most vicious and active volcanoes in the world, had begun to erupt again.

In a few seconds the terrific column had risen to about 40,000 feet,

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Vignir

New lava streams down over old deposits. Ashes are dropping on the right

forming a cloud of a strange shape that can be compared to a cauliflower in several stories, one rising out of the other. It reminded the onlooker of the column at Bikini, but was vaster, higher, and somehow alive. Mother Nature was showing that she still has a few tricks in the bag of which man is only a puny imitator. A volcanic eruption is the greatest expression of power known to man. It is strangely ominous, because a power which nobody understands is unleashed. While the atomic explosion is over in a moment, an eruption can go on for years. Once Hekla was in eruption for two and a half years.

The column from the volcano was clearly visible in Reykjavik, over eighty miles away, even though high mountains intervene. Like wildfire the report spread that Hekla had broken out again. This had been expected, even though the volcano had been dormant since 1846, for snow had recently melted from the 5,000 feet high top of the volcano.

All available aircraft were immediately hired by geologists, journalists, and other interested persons.

The weather was clear, without a cloud in the sky, with the exception of the cloud formed by the eruption. This cloud rose high into the sky, with a perpendicular side to the north, but long streamers to the south, blown by a fairly stiff breeze. The force of the column was such that it appeared to be only slightly deflected by the wind, at the top, where the force was spent.



Næfurholt Farm in the shadow of the eruption

Shortly after the beginning of the eruption these streamers gradually enveloped the land below, producing, where they were most dense, practically total darkness, for they contained not only steam but pebbles and ashes thrown out of the volcano. The wind sorted such material; the largest stones fell near the volcano, but smaller material was carried farther away. At Múlakot, twenty-two miles due south of Hekla, there was measured three inches of ashes the first day. At the bottom of the ashes was a layer, about one inch thick, of a gravelly type of grey ashes, with some pebbles about one to one and a half inches in diameter, probably flung out at the first powerful explosion. On top of this came two inches of a coarse sand. This area covered by darkness and ashes was fortunately only a narrow segment. It was, however, in the highest degree unpleasant. The darkness, which made a mirror out of every window, made work impossible. The ashes covered the fields and made the water undrinkable and threatened to ruin many farms. Fish disappeared, because of the waters' getting turbid. Even the homing instinct of birds seemed to fail, for they fluttered about in indecision and obvious wonderment.

In Reykjavik, which is due west of the volcano, no ashes fell. One could see the billowing cloud to the east and hear the distant rumbling following the explosions of the mountain. By four o'clock in the afternoon there suddenly settled a clammy sulphur smell over the town,

without however in any way interfering with the visibility or sunny perfection of the day. It can have been carried there from some high air current going crosswise against the direction of the wind that could be observed blowing near the surface.

The next day I had occasion to fly to the volcano in a five passenger Beechcraft plane. The day was sunny, with feathery clouds at about 6,000 feet. Out of them rose the column from the mountain. It had subsided considerably from the day before, but still rose like a good sized mountain from the surface of the clouds. It was a sight of great beauty. The upper surface of the clouds formed a mottled prairie. In the distance the eruptive column was the head and shoulders of a leonine form, which subsided into the long straight line of the streamers forming the back and tail that stretched as far as one could see.

As we flew nearer we began to perceive the billowing mass of the eruption. The edges were gleaming in the intense sunlight, but in the shadows it took on a brown colour mixed with blue, a menacing earthy colour. Out of the main mass that covered the mountain came pure white clouds that rose to only about one third of the main column, though considerably higher than the altitude of the plane. They formed a strangely pleasant contrast to the main cloud.

The sky had cleared when we approached the mountain. Over it lay the turbulence of the eruptive cloud. It was in constant movement, and billows rose in it and formed every second with an incredible rapidity. Occasionally the fast firing artillery took a breathing pause, and one could get a glimpse of the mountain. All one could see, however, was pink-hot holes in the mountain from which lava streamed down the mountainside. The lava followed valleys in the flanks of the mountain, where considerable snow lay from last winter. As the red hot lava flowed down them the snow melted, and the melt-water was quickly brought to the boiling point by the mass of lava over 1,000 centigrades warm. Most of it ran away in several hot rivers, as can be seen on the accompanying photograph where the steaming catspaw of the lava-stream has melted rivers of water that gradually sink into the porous lava. Above these lava-streams the steam rose, forming the white clouds out of the main eruptive cloud.

As we approached the mountain, peculiar local winds played a gay football with our tiny plane, which made close observation somewhat difficult. There seemed to be an elongated rift along the top of the mountain, which was widened at both ends, forming round holes by the terrific blast. Out of these holes, which are the real volcano, irrespective of the surrounding mountain, was shot a great deal of material, but at such speed that it was mostly invisible. What goes up is bound to come



Viglús Sigurgeirsson

Rivers of lava flow through the melting snow a few hours after the eruption

down, according to the materialistic view of our times. One saw a great many rocks fall down in the neighbourhood of the holes. Some observers described rocks the size of five-story houses, coming out of the sky. Such debris probably had been torn out of the sides of the funnel and not been thrown very far.

It was widely taught in the Middle Ages that Hekla was one of the few entrances to Hell that could be located with exactitude. Reports told of black souls flying there, and one wonders whether the rocks which the volcano juggles with and throws out might have formed a foundation for the story.

Most of the material thrown out would, however, be magma, that is molten rocks from the depths. This turns into either ashes or lava.

A somewhat unpoetical description of an eruption is to compare it to a pot of porridge boiling furiously. Some of the food spills over the edges. This is the lava that streams down the mountainside. Some is thrown into the air and falls back into the volcano, or its sides, forming a mountain, but other fragments are shot high into the chilly stratosphere. There, a process happens which we can only conjecture. The individual drops of magma are released from an inconceivable pressure. When they are touched by the intense cold of the stratosphere they turn into volcanic glass, but the pressure from within is such that it is exploded at once into smithereens that are called ashes though they do not result from a fire. This process happens probably five or ten miles above the earth. The ashes are so finely ground that they can stay up there for some time, though the coarser material soon falls to earth. At this particular eruption of Hekla, its dust was reported falling in Belgium and Southern France a few hours after the eruption began, but, later, when the wind turned somewhat more easterly, it was reported in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark.

Finally, there are some gaseous products of the volcano, which usually have a strong odour of brimstone, as were smelled in Reykjavik ten hours after the eruption started. This compares to the steam rising from our boiling pot.

The geologists of Iceland have taken up positions to observe the eruption from every angle. This has fortunately been a small eruption and has not done much damage. That is, however, comparatively speaking. The lava production in the first ten days of the eruption has been estimated at about 200 million cubic metres, which already is a good sized hill. The most rapid advance of the lava-stream has been measured about thirty to sixty metres a minute.

Since the first days of the present eruption Hekla has been simmering. Several craters opened after the first two days. These have been active for a short time, but it seems that the first craters are not very lively and are nearly closing up. When that happens the volcano clears its gigantic throat, and then ashes fall, but, in between, the production is lava and gases.

The Psalmist testified to God's power: "He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth: He toucheth the hills, and they smoke." Whether our knowledge goes any deeper than this explanation shall not be discussed here. Now, we use glibly such explanations as radio-activity and atomic fissure, which causes heat, melts the rocks, and boils the magma.

In former days the explanation was simple: Earth had caught fire,

just as a house would. A rather touching example of this is furnished by an old dean in Iceland, The Reverend Jón Steingrímsson. He was parson at Sída, when one of the greatest eruptions in historical times took place, in 1783-84. The lava flowed along the riverbeds and encircled his parish with red hot rivers of molten rock. The flock was worried, to put it mildly, as can easily be understood, for they feared that the ground under their feet would catch fire. The old dean rode with a few parishioners as near to the lava river as possible. Then each took a clod from his farm and threw it as far as he could into the red hot lava. It did not burn up, and every one rode away reassured that there was no immediate danger to their homes.

When foreign men of science tested the rocks from Iceland, they came to the same conclusion as the good dean, that they would not burn. This puzzled them deeply. As it was well known that the high Icelandic mountains were covered with ice and snow, one of the ingenious geologists of yore suggested that when the ice got old and decrepit it would catch fire and burn. This sounded quite plausible, and in 1742 a circular was issued by the Royal Scientific Society of Copenhagen instructing men of learning and the officials of the crown in Iceland to cause a few boxes of this useless old ice to be shipped to Denmark to be used as fuel!

Even today all descriptions of volcanic eruptions borrow their phraseology from combustion by fire, and American journalists repeatedly write about "flaming" Mount Hekla. It is therefore easy to understand that a four-year-old boy of Reykjavík, hearing his mother discussing the eruption with a friend, tried to lead any suspicion away from himself, by asking pointedly: "Who has now been playing with matches?"

Helgi P. Briem is Consul General of Iceland in New York. He is a frequent contributor to the REVIEW and author of ICELAND AND THE ICELANDERS, an attractive book about his country containing forty photographs in color.



Anders Lassen

BY LITHGOW OSBORNE

I FIRST SAW Anders Lassen as a boy of five—a wiry, tow-haired kid, a few months older than my oldest son, his first cousin.

Neither then nor on our later bi-annual visits to Denmark did he give full promise of the tough and rugged “first-class fighting man” that he eventually became. The last time I saw him was in 1936. He was still wiry and tow-headed; a sensitive-looking lad of fifteen, who spent all his spare time in the woods and fields and on the waters near Bækkeskov, where his parents lived. I had previously sent him the best bow-and-arrow outfit I could buy in this country and he took me down to the barn one day and, to my astonishment, shot a pigeon cleanly with his first shaft at twenty paces. I wondered a little whether his love of the outdoors and his fondness for a primitive weapon were not in some part a heritage from his American pioneer ancestors.

For Anders Lassen was one-quarter American, of old New England stock. His grandmother, Countess Raben-Levetzau of Aalholm, was American-born with Fay and Howard and Greenough and Lilley forebears.

In any case, Americans have good cause to share with Danes their great pride in Anders Lassen. So far as I have been able to ascertain, his record of three awards of the Military Cross plus the Victoria Cross is unequaled in the records of the British Army, and the deeds for which they were awarded make Anders Lassen one of the outstanding heroes of our recent struggle for world freedom and peace.



Anders as Commando



Anders as Archer

Lithgow Osborne, President of the American-Scandinavian Foundation, is an uncle of the Danish hero described in the following article.

Lassen VC, the Dane

Reprinted from *SOLDIER*

MAJOR Andy Lassen, the war's only foreigner VC, also triple MC, ranged the Mediterranean seas in a small Greek caique, taking death to the Germans and food and hope to the islanders.

The exploits of Lassen's raiding sorties became legendary in the waters of the Dodecanese and later along the Dalmatian coast. Hiding up behind rocks in the daytime, the little ship slunk out at night. Silent canoe landings were made on some lonely island, an enemy guard post smartened up, perhaps a few food parcels handed to friendly natives. Month after month these spectacular raids went on, unmentioned for security reasons.

The Germans feared the coming of these elusive pirates from the sea, who inflicted heavy casualties upon them and forced them to maintain large garrisons in what was almost a backwater of war.

Most feared of all was the silent, fair-haired leader, Andy Lassen, a Dane, descendant of the Vikings of old, brilliant seaman, inspiring leader, relentless fighter. He died winning the VC on another daring patrol at Lake Comacchio, Italy, on 9 April this year—Danish day of national mourning, the day the Nazis invaded Denmark five years before. He was 24.

Anders Frederick Emil Victor Schau Lassen was at Denmark's foremost public school, Herlufsholm. His vacations were spent shooting on his father's estate with his younger brother, Franz. They shot with bows and arrows which they made themselves. "They became so expert that they could kill a dove in flight," Andy's mother told a *SOLDIER* staff writer. "I was always a bit scared. Their weapons were no playthings. The arrows would pass right through a stag and penetrate a tree beyond."

At seventeen, Andy wanted to see the world and became an apprentice in the Danish Merchant Navy. A year later war began. The Nazi occupation of Denmark followed in the spring.

First Decoration

Andy decided not to return home but to do all that he could towards liberating his country. He joined the British Army and volunteered for a Commando. Within a month or two of being commissioned, and while still a second lieutenant, he was awarded the Military Cross. The citation, only just released, undated and revealing no place names, de-

scribed him as "a very gallant and determined officer who will carry out his job with complete disregard for his personal safety . . . possessed of sound judgment and quick decision.

"He was coxswain of a landing craft on an operation and effected a landing and subsequent re-embarkation on a dangerous and rocky island with considerable skill and without mishap.

"He took part in another operation on which he showed dash and reliability. Regardless of the action going on around him and the blowing of the liner's anchor and stern cables with high explosive, 2/Lieut. Lassen did his job quickly and coolly and showed great resource and ingenuity.

"2/Lieut. Lassen also took part in an operation as bowman on landing and then made a preliminary reconnaissance for a reported machine-gun post."

Just that. No other details can be told.

Then after North Africa, a Special Boat Service was formed to carry out raids in the Aegean. Major Earl Jellicoe was its commander. It operated much on the lines of the Special Air Service squadrons, who were led by the Long Range Desert Group behind the enemy lines to smash up desert airfields and other installations. The Navy took SBS to the scene of action. They went ashore in small craft.

Lassen had just the temperament and qualifications needed for that work. He joined them and before long a stream of stories of the incredible adventures of Andy Lassen began to be told in the canteens and messes of the Middle East. He played a conspicuous part in several secret operations during the autumn of 1942.

Incident on Crete

Then, in July 1943, he led a party, landed by secret craft on Crete, to destroy German aircraft on the Kastelli Pediada airdrome. Captain Lassen sent the main body of his patrol to one side of the airfield and set off himself with Gunner J. Jones to create a diversion. The two men cut through the barbed wire when it was night and walked boldly on to the landing ground. Lassen pretended to be a German officer on rounds. He passed three groups of sentries, answering them in their own language when challenged. He had to shoot a fourth sentry. That raised the alarm. Instantly searchlights swept the airfield. Guards came running up. The two men were caught in the lights. Heavy machine-gun and rifle fire came upon them. They had to withdraw.

Half an hour later they went back. The airfield was now being patrolled. Guards were trebled. They broke through the perimeter wire. A second sentry had to be shot. Reinforcements were rushed to the

scene. Forming a semicircle, they drove Captain Lassen and his companion into the centre of the airfield, where, in the glare of the searchlights, they were a sitting target for their pursuers, firing at them from three sides. But they were able to dodge out of the trap uninjured.

The diversion plan had succeeded. They joined the patrol, and aircraft and petrol were fired by charges before they all withdrew. They spent several days hiding in the mountains before they escaped from the island.

Captain Lassen was awarded a bar to his Military Cross; Gunner Jones won the Military Medal.

Three months later Lassen got his second bar. He was now on Simi in the Dodecanese. When they went in Lassen took a corporal ashore in a small boat, leaving the base ship lying off at anchor. He sent the corporal to find out from the Greeks whether the water was deep enough for the larger vessel to come alongside. The peasants started to argue among themselves. Lassen became impatient. He jumped off the quay-side into the water wearing full kit. As he scrambled out, he called to the corporal. "All right. Signal her in. It's deep enough."

A big-scale German landing was expected. There was little time to build defences; no chance of getting reinforcements to the island. Lassen's force was about 20 strong, apart from some Italian co-operators. He had brought along an old Nazi 20-mm gun, picked up on one of the islands near Rhodes. The tripod was missing but with the aid of the local blacksmith a mounting was made and the gun set up on the school-house.

The Germans came in caiques. About 100 of them.

Although crippled by a badly burned leg and internal trouble Lassen stalked and killed at least three Germans at the closest range. A machine-gun started up from a boat. Lassen ran to his 20-mm and answered. The boat withdrew from the harbour.

"At that time the Italians were wavering and their recovery was attributed to the personal example and initiative of this officer," states the citation. He continued to harass and destroy enemy patrols throughout the morning. In the afternoon he led the Italian counter-attack which finally drove the Nazis from the island, with the loss of 16 killed, 35 wounded, and seven prisoners, as against our losses of one killed, one wounded.

Helped Peasants

Next day Stukas came over and Lassen was sorry for the peasants because of the damage which was being done to their homes. He was genuinely happy when it was decided to withdraw two days later and

further danger was removed. He often talked of their plight in the days that followed, and while Germans were in occupation made risky night trips to the island to take food for the people of Simi.

It was for such acts of kindness that the people got to love him; for such deeds of daring that his own men shared that affection, would go anywhere with him. He had come out unscathed from so many tight corners that they began to think of him as someone indestructible.

The island raids continued. Leros, Cos, Santorini. The enemy never knew where to expect the lightning swoops next. Little garrisons at lonely radio and weather stations were beaten up, shipping and stores were destroyed. Sometimes the marauders took possession of an island by driving the enemy off or wiping them out. At other times it was just an unfriendly visit.

Calling one day on an isolated rock where two Greeks were the only inhabitants, they found a wounded RAF observer who had scrambled ashore after drifting for many days in a rubber dinghy. He badly needed medical attention. Lassen took him along. He remained a thrilled spectator in the little base ship while a raid was carried out and then was rushed off to a doctor.

Just before the Germans landed on Samos, Lassen evacuated hundreds of Greek civilians onto the mainland. But the Germans came before the operation could be completed. Lassen ordered his men to collect all the rope they could. It was tied together to form a life-line to the mainland about a mile away. Boats supported it at 200 yards intervals. The line did not quite reach the shore, but many natives escaped that way, swimming the last part of the journey.

Not a Swashbuckler

Those who heard stories of the phantom pirate imagined a cold and callous Captain Bligh. When they met him they found a blue-eyed youth, modest and charming, with a vivid personality, ever kind to the unfortunate. A little unconventionally dressed perhaps, with his private's shabby greatcoat, knitted scarf, boots with thick studded soles, probably plastered with mud. He could not get rosettes to sew on his MC ribbon. He cut two from the top of a cigarette tin. "Rough and ready, but according to regulations I am properly dressed," was his comment.

In Crete there had been many thefts of Army vehicles. Major Lassen was determined not to lose his jeep. He drove it into his hotel, took it in a big goods lift up to the second floor, parking it outside his room with his boots overnight. On the third night it jammed in the lift. He had to send for some of his men in town to come and free it.

Food never worried him. He was content to live on the land, frequently feasting on the shellfish prised from the rocks with his clasp-knife.

Then to Italy for the last spring offensive. The 2 Commando Brigade were given the task of dislodging the Germans from the northern shore of Lake Comacchio, between Ravenna and the mouth of the Po. Major Lassen was ordered to take a patrol of one officer and 17 men across the lake and attack the town of Comacchio, causing as many casualties and as much confusion as possible so as to give the impression of a major landing. The real attack was to be put in elsewhere next day.

The patrol set off in small canoes towing rubber dinghies filled with supplies. They made for a swampy island in the centre of the lake which was to be the starting line. They lay up all day on the water-logged marshland waiting for the night attack.

When evening came Lassen, paddling his small rubber canoe, led his men towards the enemy lines. No previous reconnaissance had been possible. The party made a silent landing on a narrow causeway leading towards the town, flanked on either side by water.

Two scouts went on ahead. Major Lassen followed. After about 500 yards a sentry in a slit trench challenged. They tried to allay suspicion by saying in Italian that they were fishermen returning home. The sentry seemed satisfied and the party moved on. When they attempted to overpower the sentry, machine-gun fire opened up from the position and from two blockhouses just down the road.

Lassen attacked with grenades and wiped out the post containing four Germans and two machine-guns.

Ignoring the hail of bullets sweeping the five-yards-wide causeway from three strongpoints—an additional one about 300 yards further on had come into action—he raced forward to engage the second position under covering fire from his men. Throwing in more 36's, he silenced the nest and his patrol came up and overran it. Two enemy were killed, two captured.

By this time the force had suffered casualties and its fire-power was considerably reduced. With no cover, illuminated by the enemy's flares and under a heavy cone of fire, Major Lassen rallied and reorganized his force.

"Save Your Own Lives"

As he went forward alone they directed their fire-power on the third blockhouse. He flung in more grenades. Cries of "Kamerad" came from within. He ran up to within three or four yards of the nest and

called on the Nazis to come out and surrender. A burst of Spandau fire from the left struck him down, mortally wounded. He threw in more grenades as he fell, wounding some of the enemy so that his patrol dashed in and cleared the post.

They had run into stronger opposition than they had anticipated. Ammunition was nearly gone. Major Lassen ordered them to withdraw. They wanted to take him with them. He insisted on being left there. He said, "Save your own lives and get out quickly." And there he died.

The main attack was a complete success. German casualties were heavy. Over 600 prisoners were taken. The Eighth Army advanced on the Lombardy Plain.

"By magnificent leadership and complete disregard for his personal safety" (once again those words were written of him) "Major Lassen had, in face of overwhelming superiority, achieved his objects. Three positions had been wiped out, accounting for six machine-guns, killing eight and wounding others of the enemy, and two prisoners were taken. The high sense of devotion to duty and the esteem in which he was held by the men he led, added to his own magnificent courage, enabled Major Lassen to carry out all the tasks he had been given with complete success."

Those words of the citation announcing the award of his Victoria Cross are a fitting epitaph to a great and lovable hero.

The Germans gave him a military funeral, and buried him in an unmarked tomb near the little village cemetery of Comacchio.

J. W. SHAW (Capt.)



Norwegian Influence on American Skiing

BY FRANK ELKINS

IT IS NOT AN UNUSUAL SIGHT on a Friday night or a Sunday morning during the winter to see thousands of gayly-clad, rollicking skiing enthusiasts, weighed down with heavy rucksacks and unwieldy hickory boards, flee New York City's confines via a fleet of "snow trains" for many hours of delightful recreation and health-building activity up in the Northlands.

Before the second World War interrupted, the ski sport in the United States was said to be a \$30,000,000 industry involving some three million devotees. Today, these figures can expect to be dwarfed, since interest in the Scandinavian sport is booming "ski-high." The so-called infant nation of skiing has overcome growing pains to the extent that in the cold months, the clarion cry of "Track" re-echoes throughout the breadth of the land.

Yet to the veteran follower of the sport, it was not so long ago, it seems, that the word "ski" was foreign to the American ears. Skiing was a sport mainly amongst the Scandinavian settlers and people of their extraction. While the comparative qualities of the "Arlberg" and "parallel" techniques might be discussed with the same force and verve as the problem of what is the correct wax to use at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the fact remains—and indelibly so—that our Norwegian ancestry and their kin not only pioneered skiing in the United States but helped in its development throughout the land.

It is a known fact that skiing on a general basis was introduced in this country by Scandinavian sailors who had deserted their ships in San Francisco Bay to join the rush to the "gold diggin's" in 1849. Some will contend that the Yankee ingenuity to meet a vital need for winter travel high in the Sierras of La Porte, California, saw skiing—called "snowshoeing" then—indulged in during the winter of 1850-51. On the other hand, Norwegians were spread throughout the United States, the West, the Mid-West, and the East. Wherever these children of the parent country of skiing were located, skiing was certain to be found.

The achievements of Snowshoe Thomson, none other than John A. Thomson, born April 30, 1827, in Telemarken, who emigrated to Illinois with his mother at the age of ten, who carried the mails over the high Sierra Mountain ranges on skis in 1856, has been written about considerably. For twenty years he delivered mail from Placerville to



The New York Times

Above: Reidar Andersen, former Holmenkollen winner and Norwegian Champion, won the U.S. title in 1939



Left: Sigmund Ruud and Sverre Kolterud at Dartmouth Winter Carnival, 1937. Sig Ruud became American jumping champion that year



The New York Times

Above: Torger Tokle clearing 288 feet at Hyak, Washington, March 2, 1941, to win the National Jumping Championship

Below: Birger Ruud and Nils Eie at Sun Valley, Idaho, 1938. Ruud won the U.S. title in Brattleboro, Vermont, that year

Carson Valley, California, a distance of ninety miles, the only overland communication in the U.S.A. between the Atlantic and the Pacific. To many, this Norwegian pioneer is believed to have introduced skiing to this country. Surely, the "Greatest Skier of them All" was a real pioneer. He was the forerunner of the pack train, the stage coach, the railroad locomotive, and the airship.

Though born in Telemarken, "Snowshoe Thomson"-skiing was first known as "snowshoeing"; thus the appellation belonged to the Sierras. In Diamond Valley, thirty miles south of Carson City, Nevada, he lies buried beside his only son, who died when only eleven years old. If the green pines could utter their longing, they certainly would confide to the settlers, "We have been waiting many years for the mail to arrive again—on skis." The single trail that the "Telemarking" had broken in 1856 has spread until it now pushes its furrows through every snow-covered section of the North American continent.

In 1883, skiing really ignited the public fancy, as the art of ski jumping was introduced to the American public by Mikkel Hemmes-tvedt, who at the time was the Norwegian champion. This happened during the Aurora Ski Club meet at Red Wing, Minnesota. The second competition of this Norwegian-born organization was held in 1890, with Mikkel and his brother Torjus the winners. These pioneers made visits to several cities in the Northwest. Their exhibitions prompted the formation of ski clubs wherever they visited. Another great champion came before the skiing world in 1900, Ole Mangseth. Through his coaching and examples of skiing many great exponents of jumping were developed.

The first truly organized ski club in this country was founded in Berlin, New Hampshire, where Norwegian settlers held sway, in 1882. Ishpeming, Michigan, which was to be the birthplace of the National Ski Association of America, formed the Norden Ski Club in 1887.

Minneapolis, Minnesota, must not be overlooked in American ski history for, in December 1885, a group of Scandinavians formed the ski organization, "Den Norske Turn og Skiforening." Any doubt about who was responsible for the organization of skiing in this country should be dispelled when told that the National Ski Association, founded in Ishpeming, Michigan, February 21, 1904, had as president, Carl Tellefsen; Aksel Holter, secretary; Eric Hoyseth, treasurer; and Ole Aas, Albert Aas, Fred Braastad, and George Newett, directors. Note the Scandinavians in that list!

So much for the organization and formative period of skiing in this country. In later years, Norwegians still held the guiding hand in the cultivation of the sport from both an organizational and competitive

basis. Such hard-working figures as Harold Grinden, lifetime historian of the N.S.A.; Oscar Oyaas, T. O. Raaen, Gustave Lindboe, Sig Knudsen, Julius Blegen, Thor Grosword, to name a few, helped the healthy growth of skiing through their voluntary efforts. Then for competitive stars, national, sectional, international, and Olympian, of Norwegian extraction, who carried the colors of the United States to high pedestals, we must not overlook Casper Oimoen, Erling Strom, Guttorm Paulsen, Roy and Strand Mikkelsen, Sig and Olav Ulland, Einar Fredboe, Sverre Fredheim, the Satre brothers Johan, Magnus, Ottar, Olav, and Sverre; Anton Lekang, Rolf Monsen, Harald Sorensen, Birger Torrissen, Anders and Lars Haugen, Alf Engen, coach of the 1948 American Olympic team; Lloyd Ellingsen, Hans Strand, and the celebrated Tokle brothers Torger and Kyrre. We could go on indefinitely but only a volume could do part justice to such a huge listing. That, I'm told, deponent doesn't have in this limited publication. For which this humble observer is very grateful. Sometime, in the future, a book covering the subject should be produced, if only for the Norwegian Skimuseum in Frognersteteren, Oslo.

The thrilling and dashing exploits of the Norwegian skiers during the 1932 Winter Olympics in this country, principally those of the world-renowned brothers, Sig and Birger Ruud; Hans Vinjarengen, Hans Beck, Kaare Wahlberg, Arne Rustadstuen, and Johan Grotumsbraaten; American invasions by the Ruud brothers, Tomm Murstad, Nils Eie, Reidar Andersen, Sverre Kolterud, Erik Bryntesen, Bjorn Lie, and last winter's formidable array of Arnold Kongsgaard, who set the unofficial national mark of 294 feet at Hyak, Washington; Harold Hauge, Ragnar Baklid, Jens Prytz, Kristoffer Berg, Gustav Raaum, and Capt. Harald Sandvik, and the goodwill performances during the war by Viking groups of "Carl," "Ola," "Sigurd," "Fredrik" and "Ole"—to name a few—from Little Norway, Toronto, through the kindness of Col. Ole Reistad . . . all have left their indelible tracks on the snow hills from the lofty heights of Mount Washington to the rugged peaks of the Sierras.

In the foregoing group, there are Norwegians who created new marks and carried off numerous honors, national, sectional, and state. And as impressive as their demonstrations of jumping, cross-country, downhill, and slalom were their sense of fair play, good sportsmanship, and typical Norse gaiety. They lent an air of hilarity and cheerfulness in their goodwill missions to the baby country of the ski sport.

To the average American, and I presume this must apply to his native land of Norway, the late Torger Tokle, who came to this country from Lokken Verk, was a symbol of everything Norwegian. This

25-year-old transplanted Brooklyn Norwegian was to the American ski sport what Babe Ruth was to baseball and Jack Dempsey to boxing. Since his arrival on these shores in January 1939, the ever-smiling Torger carved a niche in the heart of the American sports world with his engaging personality and charm and his tremendous ski jumping which saw him breaking twenty-four hill records while winning forty-two of forty-eight competitions—a phenomenal record. Championships, national and otherwise, were the lot of the 160-pound powerhouse, who jumped into the sports pages with blazing headlines for his notable achievements throughout the United States, bringing glory to his native and adopted land.

When the news came that the Nazis had killed Torger while this mountain trooper was leading an attack among the Apennine Peaks in March 1945, a pall of gloom covered the snowfields throughout North America and, I am sure, the world. Death came just as the Norwegian powerhouse wanted it, fighting for the right to have his five brothers and three sisters living in Norway return to a normal, peaceful life. When he joined the crack Mountain Division that broke the back of the Germans in that final drive in the Po Valley, the ever-smiling Torger said: "I will do everything for my adopted land to help it remain the champion of the small and downtrodden nations of Europe." This great Norwegian and American died in this faith, a good soldier. At the present time, Torger's organization, the Norway Ski Club, through the generosity of American skiers, has raised money to perpetuate the memory of the man who was symbolic of everything clean and healthy in the sport by donating a cup that is to go to the winner of the United States ski jumping championship each year.

Yes, while millions of Americans are running the slopes and trails on their glistening hickory wings with the latest bindings, hovering over the snow-clad hills and woodlands are the memories of those brave and hardy Norwegian settlers and their offspring who today are responsible for the infant ski country, the U.S.A., being the most enthusiastic nation in ski sport today. A healthy parent that begot a healthy child!

In concluding, we must not overlook the noble thoughts expressed by that great world statesman and Norwegian, ski lover and ski historian, Fridtjof Nansen:



The ski-crested tombstone of "Snowshoe Thomson" in Diamond Valley, near Genoa, Nevada

"What is more invigorating and healthier than to strap on skis and glide off towards the woods and mountains on a clear winter day?

"What sight is more inspiring and magnificent than the winter landscape when snow lies thick over forest and mountain?

"What is more exhilarating and exciting than to glide swifter than a bird down snowy slopes and through fragrant pine woods, when the air bites the cheeks, low-hanging twigs brush past—and mind and muscle alike are keyed to a tense pitch in order to overcome obstacles and avoid unexpected curves?

"Is it not as though the cares and problems of the world are left behind in the faraway city and completely forgotten?

"He who wishes to become acquainted with Nature in her noblest form should learn to ski!"

Frank Elkins is ski editor of THE NEW YORK TIMES and editor of "The Complete Ski Guide." He was a champion of Norway in press and radio during the war and has received the St. Olav Medal from King Haakon VII.



DANISH DANCES ARE PERFORMED IN THE BLOCKED OFF STREET AS VISITORS AND TOWNSPEOPLE LOOK ON. THE INTRICATE FOLK DANCES ARE EXPERTLY ACCOMPLISHED BY THE YOUNGER GENERATION OF SOLVANG

The Danish Days Festival

BY JOHN J. HANRAHAN

Photographs by the Author

THE LITTLE VILLAGE of Solvang, California, which is nestled deep in the picturesque Santa Ynez Valley, springs into action once a year and comes into its own. On a sunny week end during May visitors from far and near flock to this quiet little village to see the celebration of the Danish Days Festival. This fête is brought about chiefly because a great proportion of the popula-

IN
AEE



IN SPECIAL FRYING PANS THE WOMEN OF SOLVANG PREPARE AEBELSKIVER. EVEN ON FESTIVAL DAYS THESE WOMEN CANNOT GET AWAY FROM A HOT STOVE . . . BUT THEY ENJOY IT



THE GIRLS OF SOLVANG IN THEIR GAY DANISH COSTUMES ENJOY THE HOLIDAY EVEN THOUGH THEY DO HAVE TO WAIT ON TABLES

tion in Solvang are of Danish descent. Once a year these people dress up in the clothes of the old country, prepare and eat the foods of their ancestors, dance in the streets to the old Danish folk songs, and pretend for this one day that they are back in their native land.

The main street is blocked off and tables are set up for the Danish breakfast that will be served by pretty young girls dressed in colorful costumes. A space is reserved for dancing, as many of the old dances will be performed by young and old. Flags are hung on the lampposts and the valley newspaper carries headlines of the coming affair. Wild delight fills the eyes of all the youngsters in town as they try on their costumes again and again . . . after all . . . this occasion comes only once a year!



THIS FRECKLED-FACED SOLVANG GIRL IS A WELCOME SIGHT TO HUNGRY EYES THAT APPRECIATE DANISH COOKING



THE DANES ARE GOOD CONVERSATIONALISTS, BUT THIS SOLVANG GENTLEMAN IS TOO HUNGRY TO TALK

DAN



DANISH POTTERY SEEMS QUAIN'T UNDER THE AMERICAN AND
DANISH FLAGS IN A SOLVANG SHOP WINDOW



THE BELLS OF MISSION SANTA YNEZ AT SOLVANG TOLLED OFTEN DURING THE HOLIDAY. THE CROSS IN THE FOREGROUND IS LOCATED IN THE COURTYARD WHERE THE OLD PADRES ARE BURIED

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The Hand

BY OLAFUR JOHANN SIGURDSSON

Translated from the Icelandic by Axel Eyberg and John Watkins

1.

UP IN THE attic lived an old woman, but I did not know her name.

If I wakened early in the morning, I heard her footstep as she stole down the stairs. It was such a soft, meek footstep that I concluded her chief concern in life must be not to make much noise in the world. Now and then, too, I would meet her on the stairway as she was coming home in the evening. The stair was both narrow and steep, and it was always she who stepped aside, squeezing close to the wall and trying to make herself as small as possible. She succeeded remarkably well: I barely saw her—she seemed, indeed, to have had long practice in stepping aside.

One time, just for fun, I made way for her on the stairs. I stood still and waited for her to proceed. But the old woman also stood still. She did not stir—she waited just as I did.

"Aren't you coming up?" I asked impatiently.

But she shook her head, not understanding this unwonted courtesy.

She was short and stooped. When she looked up—and that very seldom happened—I saw the infinite weariness in her dark eyes. Her face was expressionless and impersonal, her complexion gray, her hair thin and straggly. She had no distinguishing mark that would put her into any particular class. She was one of those myriad people who are to be found everywhere in the world; indeed her very existence seemed to me of no account whatever. I had no idea where she came from, what she did, or whether she had spent her whole life here in the attic. But

somebody told me that she had a son, a handsome boy, who was a sailor.

Then several incidents occurred that brought us close to each other, incidents which resulted many years later in my composing some melodies which I called "The Songs of the Old Woman."

2.

The first few weeks I lived in the house everything went as I could wish. I had enough to eat and to keep me warm, I felt well, I looked with bright eyes toward the future. But the fair wind of happiness did not last long unfortunately. My money gradually evaporated, my friends gradually evaporated. Difficulties beset me so that it was often hard for me to sleep at nights. I paced the floor, up and down. The night was silent. The hush of the void drowned every thought, every breath.

To sit by the window and watch what went on in the house across the street was my favorite pastime. In the morning I saw a portly woman busy preparing food. She handled the plates and pans with perfect assurance, smiled at her own amusing thoughts, and every now and then waddled off into the dining-room. She was a kind of dining-room in herself. But in the evening my interest centered mainly in the light in a window on the ground floor. There lived a young man who seemed determined to enjoy life. Fortunately he was not in the habit of going to bed early, but more important to me was the fact that I could never tell just when he was going to turn out the light. It even happened that he did not turn it out at all, and the light burned all night long.

I decided to count up to five thousand. I took a bet with myself that before that figure was reached my neighbor would have put out his light. I closed my eyes and began to count. I divided myself into two people: the one counted, the other watched that all the rules were obeyed.

But as the fourth thousand approached. I could not resist opening my eyes a little, just enough to see whether the light was still on. If it was, I would count slower until I got to four thousand five hundred. Then I would open my eyes as quick as a flash, so that the watchman could not notice, then add three hundred more, and count the last tens very slowly, determined to win.

But my neighbor on the other side of the street had probably no idea what an important person he was. Either he must have been very uncharitably disposed or his landlord very impatient, for one fine day I saw a new face in the window on the ground floor. It was a middle-aged spinster, wizened and shrunken. She put out the light promptly at ten every evening.

My friend had moved—and my wakeful nights became still more desolate and uneventful.

3.

After this I began to pay more attention to the old woman. In particular I noticed that she was more cheerful and less reserved when the weather was calm and good; but many a stormy night she hummed to herself almost till morning. I sneaked up to her door and listened, like a thief. She was not singing any special tune with any special text, but rather fragments of many tunes and fragments of many texts. There was a strange mournfulness in her voice, a mixture of vague apprehension and deep longing. I felt certain that she was unhappy, but nevertheless I had no sympathy for her. I had troubles enough of my own.

... Ha? A knock at the door, and it's going on for one o'clock! Before I have

time to say "Come in," the door is edged open—and a hand appears. In the palm is a small piece of chocolate, and a shy voice whispers: "Do take this, please." I take the chocolate involuntarily and forget to thank her. I am so astonished I can find no words.

The hand disappears, the door closes, and the soft, modest footsteps are heard again in the hall. Then all is silence.

It never failed after this that when I was feeling worst, when sleeplessness, loneliness, and poverty were getting the best of me, there came a knock at the door, three taps, and the hand appeared. In the palm there was always something to cheer me. The old woman seemed to sense it whenever I was most in need of sympathy. But she took good care to close the door before I could manage to thank her.

It is told in many a famous tale—and many a famous man has maintained—that the eye is the mirror of the soul. But this is not the case. It is much easier to see what people are like if you pay close attention to their hands. Some have fine white hands with long, slender fingers, and perhaps painted fingernails. But if you observe more closely the movements of the thumb or the relation of the middle finger to the others, you may perhaps conclude that these are stingy hands, selfish and grasping hands, which would never try to help you when you were most in need.

The old woman's hand was not a dainty one. It was a crooked hand, red and swollen from hot suds. The world had been boiling it for many years. Five fingers which bore witness to a boundless forgiveness toward life, ready to give their last penny, to share what there was out of their poverty.

4.

The week before Christmas there was a violent storm. The wind howled fiercely. It blew great slabs of corrugated iron off

the roofs of the houses. Three times that night there was a knock at my door. Three times the hand brought me gifts—and it was trembling. I had acquired incredible proficiency in divining the old woman's state of mind; indeed, I could tell from her hand how she felt in her heart. I knew that she was feeling worse than usual that night. I knew that no fumbling words of comfort could allay her wakefulness, so I said nothing.

And Christmas Eve came along. The heavens were unpredictable, dark clouds sailed archwise across the sky. I had had hopes that a little melody on which I had been working for a long time might meet favor in the eyes of certain people and lighten my struggle for existence. But these hopes had come to nothing. I wandered home, downcast and miserable. For a long time I had not been able to pay the light bill, so now they had cut off the current. It was dark in my room. Moreover, it was not a bright moonlit evening with glittering frost as all Christmas Eves ought to be. Instead tiny raindrops fell densely and persistently on the windowpanes, the roar of the surf could be heard in the distance, and soon it would begin to storm.

I lay stretched out at full length on the sofa and listened as in a trance to the sound of the chimes, which penetrated solemnly through the moisture-laden winter air: Ding dong, ding dong! Resolved to accept this Christmas with equanimity, I invented two garrulous men who re-

called to mind all the most amusing and most cherished memories I possessed. But this trick did not work. The men soon merged into one and fell silent. The darkness grew more intense.

Then something happened which I shall not soon forget. The hand appeared around the door; it was holding a lighted blue Christmas candle—and it was trembling. But when I did not get up, the old woman herself came in, set the candle on the table, and handed me a neat little package. She hesitated a moment, glanced shyly around her, and finally sat down gingerly on the old wreck of a chair. The candle flame cast a flickering gleam on her face and hair, painted the room with a warm red glow.

I began to examine the package. There was a little card attached—and on it was scrawled in an obviously unschooled hand: "Merry Christmas, Nonni boy, from Mother." I read this over again and again before I realized that the old woman must be making a mistake; the package was not for me. I looked at her in surprise, and it was on the tip of my tongue to ask what it meant. But the old woman, who did not seem to notice anything, had nevertheless read my thoughts. The corners of her mouth began to twitch, she turned away, huddling up in the shadow, covered her face with her hands, and wept soundlessly into the silence.

There was no need to ask any questions, I understood everything.

Olafur Johann Sigurdsson, Icelandic novelist and short story writer, studied American art and literature as a Fellow of the Foundation in 1944. His short story "The Dust of the Road" appeared in the REVIEW for March 1945.

Danish Books for American Libraries

1946

Compiled by Mogens Iversen, Librarian at the State Library Commission of Denmark. American prices are furnished by Albert Bonnier, New York.

FICTION

Abell, Kjeld. *Silkeborg. Thaning og Appel.* \$1.50.

This play gives an excellent impression of the average Danish citizen's encounter with German Nazi mentality and youth's courage and strong will to fight for freedom.

Blicher, Steen Steensen. *Digte og Noveller.* Vols. 1-2. Gyldendal. \$3.15. Cloth \$7.35.

This classical author's most outstanding works are published in two well edited and inexpensive volumes.

Hansen, Martin A. *Tornebusken.* Gyldendal. \$2.00.

No doubt this is the most significant book of 1946. Three short stories describe the human soul in various moods. The subject of the last short story is the mood of a company of soldiers on maneuvers in the fearful days just before April 9, 1940.

Herdal, Harald. *Læreaar.* Gyldendal. \$2.75.

The lyric poet and the exponent of social novels concludes with this book a trilogy of memoirs (*Barndom* 1944 and *Unge Aar* 1945) which recount the life of the so-called lower classes in the peaceful years before the first World War.

Jensen, Johs. V. *Myter.* Vols. 1-2. Gyldendal. \$4.25. Cloth \$8.50.

The myths and the exotic short stories in a new edition.

Paidar, Helene. *Det forheksede Land.* Vol. 3. *Edith.* Haase. \$2.25. Cloth \$3.25 and \$4.50.

One of the best psychological novels of the last few years. Edith was born in Estonia of Danish parents and grew up there. In this volume we hear about her first impression of Denmark and her reaction. A charming tale of a young girl with a character of her own.

GENERAL

Danske Samfundsromaner. *Fra Henrik Pontoppidan til Leck Fischer.* Schultz. 75¢.

This little book may serve as an introduction to modern Danish fiction. Eight outstanding novels about the development of Danish literature as well as the Danish community in modern times are reviewed.

Frit Danmarks Hvidbog. Vols. 1-2. 1945-46. Thaning og Appel. \$3.75.

Conditions in Denmark during the German occupation and the underground movement. The organization of the fight for liberty is excellently described.

Jessen, Frantz von. *Mit Livs Egne, Handlinger, Mennesker.*

The "grand old man" among Danish newspapermen concludes his memoirs. He describes his numerous travels to the foci of world events. Of interest are also his points of view regarding domestic problems, especially South Slesvig.

Mortensen, Tage. *Kampen om Sydslesvig.* Hagerup. \$1.95.

Denmark's most important problem today is the relationship with South Slesvig and the growing feeling of being Danish among its inhabitants. Here is a summary of Danish, German, and English points of view in the matter.

Nøjgaard, Niels. *Ordets Dyst og Daad. Kaj Munks Levnedsløb og Personlighed.* Nyt Nordisk Forlag. \$5.00. Cloth \$7.50.

This book gives the most thorough and personal description of the famous Danish poet-minister's life and work.

Petersen, Sophie. *Danmarks gamle Tropicolonier.* Hagerup. \$5.00.

The first description of the history of our tropical colonies from the seventeenth century and up to 1917 when the Virgin Islands were sold to U.S.A. The authoress visited the colonies on several occasions. She tells also about conditions today and about traditions from the time of the Danish regime which are still preserved.

Starcke, V. *Danmark i Verdenshistorien. Danmarks Historie udadtil fra Stenalder til Middelalder.* Munksgaard. \$4.75. Cloth \$6.00.

The author is one of the outstanding spokesmen for the theories of Henry George in Danish politics. While in exile during the war he studied the relationship between Denmark and its neighboring countries.

Sønderby, Knud. *Forsvundne Somre.* Gyldendal. \$1.95.

The young able author tells with irresistible

charm in his beautiful little essays about nature and people, about spring in the stable, about summer at the Sound, and about a trip from Copenhagen to Korsør and further across the belt. Everything is seen and sensed through youthful vivid eyes.

Vibe, Christian. *Ene ligger Grønland. Livet i Grønland under de seks lange Adskillelsens Aar, 1939-1945.* Hagerup. \$5.00.

The author who was chief of the news service in Greenland during the war gives here an authentic description of life in the remote colony.

Swedish Books for American Libraries

1946

Compiled by Greta Linder, library adviser, on the basis of the annotated lists published by the Swedish Government Library Commission. American prices are furnished by Albert Bonnier, New York City.

FICTION

Aronson, Stina. *Hitom himlen.* Norstedt. 300 pp. \$2.85.

This book gives a vivid picture of the life of the poor *laestadianer* (a religious sect which has many adherents in Norrland) and their naive and pious faith.

Browallius, Irja. *Ljuva barndomstid.* Bonnier. 228 pp. \$2.25. Cloth \$3.25.

The autobiography comprises a distinct portrait of a girl and an excellent picture of life in Stockholm.

Edqvist, Dagmar. *Musik i mörker.* Bonnier. 446 pp. \$3.50. Cloth \$4.50.

An entertaining book about a young man who became blind after an accident and his struggle to shape his life under the changed conditions. A good and sympathetic account of the difficulties of the blind.

Hedberg, Olle. *Större än du nånsin tror.* Norstedt. 578 pp. \$3.75. Cloth \$5.00.

A childhood story from the years of the great general strike (1909) and the upper classes of that time.

Johnson, Eyvind. *Strändernas svall.* Bonnier. 598 pp. \$7.50.

The Odyssey has repeated itself in the political development of our time. An interesting and colorful book.

Spong, Berit. *Svarta tavlan.* Norstedt. 534 pp. Continuation of *Nävervisan*. \$3.75. Cloth \$5.00.

This is a story about a poor farmer and his efforts to give his children an education which he himself did not succeed in obtaining. Significant points of view are given regarding the problem of changing one's social position.

Strindberg, August. *Skrifter. Utg. och förord med kommentar av G. Brandell.* 1-14. Bonnier. Vol. I. \$2.25. Cloth \$3.45. Complete edition (14 volumes). Cloth \$80.00.

On the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of Strindberg's birth (1849) a new edition of his most significant works is being published. Furthermore a very interesting volume has been published which contains a selection of his extensive correspondence, *Från Fjärdingen till Blå tornet*.

GENERAL

Askund, Erik. *Stockholm-sommarstaden.* Text by Erik Askund. Pictures by K. W. Gullers. Kooperativa förbundet. 96 pp. \$2.25. Cloth \$3.00.

Life in Stockholm during a summer day and night is interestingly recounted by a journalist born in the city.

Böök, Fredrik. *Esaias Tegnér.* 1-2. Bonnier. Vol. I. \$4.50. Cloth \$5.75.

One hundred years after Tegnér's death, at last, the first exhaustive biography is published. The author is an outstanding Tegnér-student.

Cyren, Otto. *Svensk kemisk industri.* Bonnier. 350 pp. Cloth \$5.25.

A popular and instructively illustrated description of the Swedish chemical industry of today.

De Geer, Gerard. *Sveriges naturrikedomar.* I. Bonnier. 332 pp. \$6.00. Cloth \$8.00 and \$10.50.

An instructive book about the most important industrial resources: the forest, the waterpower, and the ore. Vol. II will deal with the soil, the fossil fuel, lakes and streams for fishing, and hunting grounds.

Folket i fest. Av Erik Lundberg a.o. Landbruksförbundets tidskrifts a.b. 211 pp. Cloth \$2.75.

The beautifully illustrated book gives many interesting descriptions of old building culture, folk music, folk dances, etc.

Jaensson, Knut. *Essayer.* Bonnier. 276 pp. \$2.25.

This book deals with the following writers: Hjalmar Söderberg, Fridegård, Tage Aurell, Birger Sjöberg, Harry Martinson, and Hjalmar Bergman. The author is concentrating on the human aspect without losing contact with the artistic trend.

Lundkvist, Artur (editor). *Europas litteraturhistoria 1918-1939.* Forum. 656 pp. \$4.50. Cloth \$5.75.

A significant reference book dealing with a number of national literatures (not Swedish) described by various writers.

Montgomery, Arthur. *Svensk ekonomisk historia mot internationell bakgrund 1913-1939.* Kooperativa förbundet. 392 pp. \$3.00.

The development of Swedish industry on the background of the economic tendencies of the world.

Nyblom, Elsa. *När hjärtat var ungt.* Ljus. 357 pp. \$3.00. Cloth \$4.00.

The Strindberg Theatre troupe with which the authoress toured for a time is described in this book.

Oljelund, Ivan, (editor). *Min mor. Fyrtiofem svenska män och kvinnor om sina mö-*

drar. Lindblad. 268 pp. \$4.25. Cloth \$5.50 and \$8.50.

Forty-five famous men and women tell about their mothers. The bright spirit and influence of the mother is pictured on the background of typical Swedish life, often in poverty and suffering.

Steenberg, Elisa. *Svenskt glas.* Forum. 158 pp. Cloth \$2.00.

A survey of the history of the Swedish glass industry as a branch of the decorative arts.

Strömbom, Sixten. *Carl Milles.* Seelig. 40 pp. 75¢.

A little study of the sculptor who is now living in U.S.A. This popular book is illustrated by thirty photos of Milles' works.

Sverige i fest och glädje. Av B. Nerman a.o. Edited by Mats Rehnberg. Wahlström and Widstrand. 253 pp. \$5.75. Cloth \$7.50 and \$11.25.

Beautifully illustrated accounts from the time of the youth courts of old Uppsala to the barn dances and traveling theatre troupes of the nineteenth century. A second volume is expected.

Våra folkrörelser. Kooperativa förbundet. 255 pp. \$1.50. Cloth \$2.00.

A popular and well written description of the great folk movements which have given the Swedish community its particular color. (The church movement, the prohibition movement, the economic movements, f.inst. the cooperative movement, etc.)

Rain

BY ARTUR LUNDKVIST

Translated by Arthur Wald and Martin S. Allwood

TODAY the rain is like
a woman's great soft hair
spread out over the earth—
dusky, cool, and fragrant.

You who have been betrayed in love
and sit brooding over your heart's dark sorrow
hear the murmur of the rain
and listen to its comforting words—

all things grow,
all things progress,
and all things decay—
but life stays on.

THE QUARTER'S HISTORY



THE DAILY PRESS OF COPENHAGEN resumed publication in July, after a recess and printers' strike that had lasted four months. The news items that appeared during the quarter were a blend of smiles and tears. Both

the tragic and the comic were present in the report and recommendations of the Minister of Finance, Thorkil Kristensen, when he concluded his caustic commentary with the slogan that instantly made him popular: "What does it matter if the food is poor, when the cook is amusing?" Of course the Finance Minister is now being quoted everywhere in the households of Denmark.

DENMARK SENT OFF A BRIGADE of four thousand soldiers to Germany and became by this act a participant in the Occupation. King Frederik IX waved farewell to his men as they crossed the border. The King last summer travelled diligently over the length and breadth of his land, and was hailed everywhere with boisterous enthusiasm. His simple habits, his democratic and modern adaptability, have created a popularity for the young king that promises well for the future. With an intuitive understanding of human nature and an unusual faculty for getting on well with plain folks, he has won the hearts of all the Danes. He knows how to continue the proud traditions of King Christian X, but he is, at the same time, a king of the twentieth century.

THE GALLUP POLL gave an insight into Denmark's reaction to President Truman's politics. 52 per cent. favored American foreign policy toward Russia; only

12 per cent. were opposed. Denmark expects much of the Marshall Plan. At the meeting in Paris, July 13, Danish Ambassador Kruse cried: "Give Denmark fodder and Europe will get food!" This promise we can make good if (1) prices of feeding stuff become reasonable, (2) supplies are reasonable, and (3) Denmark does not repeat the summer that has just passed. Last summer the rain did not fall, the sun was blistering, the draught parched the grass, and our cattle stood bellowing in the fields with nothing to eat. A meat rationing that went into effect August 1 was abandoned within a few days. For the farmers, who found themselves without feed for the cattle, had to let thousands of their beasts go to the slaughter houses, and suddenly Denmark was deluged with beef. At the end of the quarter this abnormal slaughtering stopped, and meat rationing went into effect once more, but the preceding period had been tragic for Denmark's most important industry—agriculture.

THE PURIFICATION OF OUR POLITICAL LIFE continued. Hofjægermester Jørgen Sehested of Broholm, who during the Occupation had been in league with the Germans and was ambitious to become Minister, got twelve years' imprisonment. Former Folketingsmand Hartel, who had been Sehested's man Friday, got fourteen years.

MOMENTOUS FOREIGN PROBLEMS pressed in upon us at the same time. The South Slesvig question remained chronically unsolved, and a lack of agreement in the political parties was manifest. The post-war Government party, the Liberals, were for a positive policy regarding South Slesvig, while the Radicals were opposed and were supported by the Social Democrats

and the Communists. The apple of discord was the Prime Minister, who represented the Liberals and, at the same time, personally went further than the cooler heads of his party. In her official note to Great Britain Denmark did not demand the return of South Slesvig to Denmark for the time being but left the decision to the people of South Slesvig. In his speeches as a private citizen, however, Mr. Kristensen maintained that the time had come to fix a date for a plebiscite in South Slesvig.

THE PROBLEM OF GREENLAND and others was likewise confusing. Our Communists objected to the American bases on our northern colony, whereas Foreign Minister Gustav Rasmussen chose to drive his foreign policy without regard to parties but in the interest of the Danish people and the colony. Denmark desires to preserve its sovereignty in Greenland. That was manifested last summer by the expeditions of Danish scientists and the activities of Danish business men in Greenland.

BUT SMALLER PROBLEMS also were the concern of this tiny land! When the Royal Theatre raises the price of tickets 25 per cent. because of the hard times, or when passenger planes cross the Øresund for the first time, there is copy for the front page. It is no less exciting when an anonymous visitor to the races wins eleven thousand kroner on a wager of five kroner and the income tax officers begin to interest themselves in his identity!

And behold! An American company comes over to little Denmark, the Danish-American Prospecting Company, and high towers rise on the Jutland heath, and they begin to drill for oil. Our imagination, indeed, is stirred. We start dreaming about Denmark as a kind of European Mexico, but, at this writing, no oil has appeared, and the public is forgetting its Mexican dream. Other problems become more urgent. 83,000 unused coupons for

the purchase of textiles bear witness to the fact that there is not as much money in every walk of life as the tax collectors would have us believe. Again, Copenhageners would love to cross over to Sweden to buy a little tobacco or some cheap articles of clothing and good clothes at that, but the Swedish and Danish officials suddenly clamp down on them and shut out the shoppers. Only folks who stay in Sweden more than four days may bring back scarce articles like bananas, oranges, nylons, or slippers. The day before the embargo went into effect no less than thirty thousand Copenhageners succeeded in crossing the Sound to Sweden, and the custom collectors were mighty busy when they all came home to Denmark in the evening!

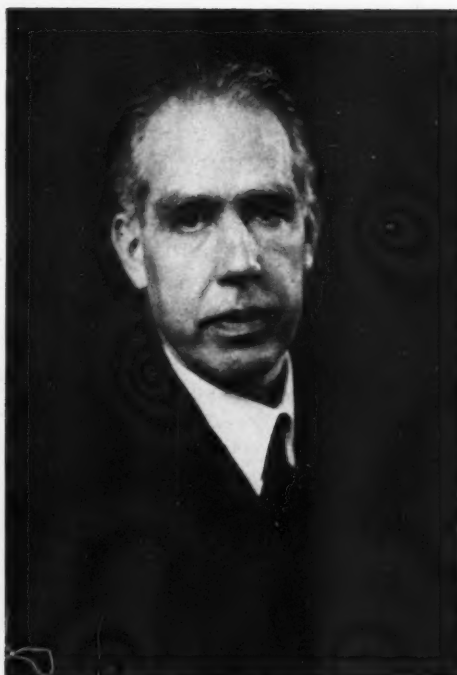
THE MICROBIOLOGISTS had their world congress in Copenhagen last summer. Later there arrived thousands upon thousands of Baptists. Denmark had a dose of that race hatred that it did not know about before when certain pious American Baptists refused to sleep in the same hotel as the Negro delegates who came to the Congress. So the Negroes were quartered in private homes. But when a Dane talks about our own German refugees, who to date have cost us five hundred million kroner, many of whom are still on our hands, he understands at once the problems of minorities. Any news of negotiations by the great powers to relieve us of our unwelcome guests is greeted with enthusiasm.

NOW ABOUT OUR TRADE WITH ENGLAND? The present disagreements seem to offer no basis for compromise. England's bids and Denmark's prices are too wide apart. The British come over to talk with us and the British go back to their island again. Then Denmark begins to scan the globe for new markets. But before other contracts are made the British come back again, and negotiations are resumed. We are all still praying that we may get back our good old British markets again.

Niels Bohr



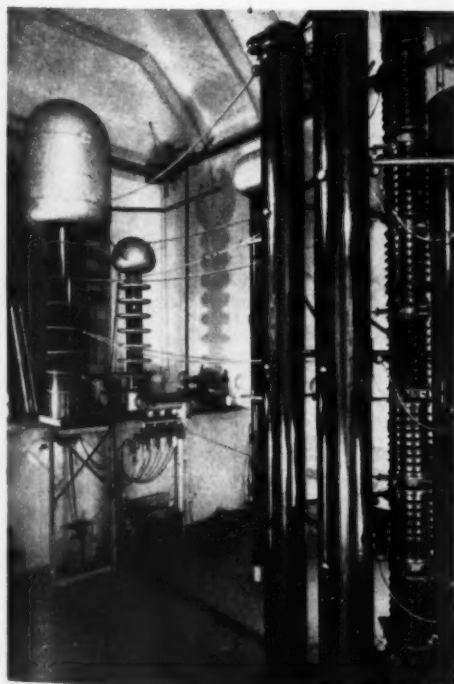
THE INSTITUTE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN



Elfelt

PROFESSOR NIELS BOHR

*Director of Nuclear Physics in Denmark,
who assisted the Alamos Project in the
United States*



THE ONE MILLION VOLT GENERATOR

THE INTERNAL POLITICAL STRUGGLE is a steady accompaniment to these world happenings. In the midst of all his difficulties Premier Knud Kristensen and his wife boarded a plane and flew off to Switzerland to a world congress to promote Moral Disarmament! This gave the newspapers something to print at a time when there was precious little local news. The premier had shown again his happy disposition and balanced character. When the chief of state can take a few days vacation for a congress of the Oxford Group at a time when the political billows roll highest, it is obvious that the whole rumpus does not ruffle him very much. But when Knud Kristensen came home and calmly entered the whirlpool again, he offered to resign if that would help matters. The Radicals were amazed, because they had not expected him to be so accommodating. So they cried "No!" The State Minister's head on a platter was not enough. There must be an election.

October 4, on motion of the Radicals, Parliament passed a resolution of no confidence in Premier Knud Kristensen, and the lower chamber was dissolved in preparation for a new election. Mr. Kristensen had been Prime Minister since November 7, 1945, when he succeeded Vilhelm Buhl of the Social Democratic Party.

JUST AS THE QUARTER WAS running out came the news that the Russians had dumped poison gas from German arsenals in the Baltic near our beloved island of Bornholm. We delivered a protest to the allied control. About the same time came new rumors of stricter rationing. Autos must not cross from one province to another but must keep near the home garage. The Dane expected a pretty tight autumn. But he took it all in his stride with a smile because he heard that his landlord had purchased enough coal so that he and his family would not have to freeze as they did last winter. That alone is something to be thankful for!



ICELAND

Lives of the Kings of Norway, the *Prose Edda*, and possibly *Egill's Saga*. *Heimskringla* is still eminently readable and contains the history of Norway from earliest time to about 1177. Its wisdom, wealth of information, and elegant style of writing has made it the most prized book of the Norwegians besides the Bible. They have often declared that their national Renaissance was due to Snorri.

About ten years ago the Youth organizations of Norway started a collection for a memorial to Snorri. It met with such good response that there was enough money for two statues. It was planned that one should be erected at Snorri's estate: Reykholt, and the other in Bergen, and be unveiled in 1941, seven centuries after Snorri was murdered at the instigation of the king of Norway.

The unveiling has made the occasion of great festivities. A Norwegian cruiser brought the Crown Prince and two members of the Cabinet, and three other ships brought hundreds of Norwegians. The President of Iceland and the whole cabinet led the thousands of Icelanders assembled at Reykholt.

The statue is made in superhuman size by the Norwegian sculptor Vigeland. Critics say that it does not come up to the usual high standard of his works.

THE SUMMER OF 1947 will probably be long remembered as a very unfortunate one. It began with a strike of unskilled labor in Reykjavik which lasted for over a month with great losses both to labor and employers. The increase won was so slight that it was estimated that it would

OLAV, CROWN PRINCE OF NORWAY, unveiled a statue of Snorri Sturluson (1179-1241) on July 20, and dedicated it as a gift of the Norwegian people to the people of Iceland.

Snorri is the author of *Heimskringla* or *The*

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take three to four years of uninterrupted employment to make good the direct loss in wages.

One of the mainstays of the economic life of Iceland is the herring. The herring season, as a rule, lasts only six to eight weeks. This summer the fishing failed to a large extent. This means that Iceland had a loss of expected foreign exchange which represents probably about one hundred million kronur.

This loss was of grave consequence to Iceland for suddenly our land found itself in the same financial hurricane that sweeps most other European countries. A thorough revision of the whole import program was necessary. All outstanding import licenses were quickly revoked, so that those not absolutely necessary could be cancelled.

The loss of the expected income from the herring season has repercussions on the other chief exports of Iceland. The herring products are much sought after; so Iceland could sell some of its less favored articles of export as a kind of tie-in. How these fare is not clear.

The summer weather was also unfavorable for agriculture. Whereas the weather gods gave the neighboring countries such sunny weather that crops suffered severely from drought, Iceland had the rainiest summer of this century, and hardly any sun. The hay crop in the south could not be dried and will amount to only a fraction of the average. Farmers face the problem whether they shall diminish their stock, which would mean less milk in the towns, or buy grain that already has risen very much in price. Whatever the result may be, Iceland must spend more foreign exchange on food products.

ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL REPORTS Iceland has helped other countries to the tune of 27.4 million kronur since the war ended. Of this 10.7 millions was paid the UNRRA, but the rest is voluntary contributions, of which about 12 million kro-

nur was earmarked for Denmark and Norway.

This amounts to about 215 kronur per habitant of Iceland, which is more than any other country has contributed to the war-torn nations of Europe, with the exception of the United States.



KING HAAKON VII celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday at Eidsvold where the founding fathers drafted the Constitution of Norway in 1814. He was entertained by the members of Parliament at a special luncheon.

NORWAY IS RECOVERING economically in good order. The foreign exchange controls have been further tightened and foreign credits turned over to the Bank of Norway of which Gunnar Jahn is director.

AT U.N. Norway is active in many ways. Delegate Finn Moe is vice-chairman of the Headquarters Committee.

NORWAY IS GETTING WARMER is the determined conclusion of scientists. Each year its glaciers lose two million cubic meters of water.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OSLO opened again full to capacity with throngs of smiling students. Rektor Otto Mohr received them in academic robes of mediaeval splendor.

THE TIMBER FALL is estimated this season to break all records, with a cut of eight million cubic meters. Five hundred chain saws have been purchased in Canada. The Government and the logging companies have come to an agreement on prices, and the output is expected to bring Norway 250,000,000 kroner in foreign exchange.

THE SOVIET-NORWAY BOUNDARY has been definitely marked. There are two sets of seven-foot wooden markers, the Norwegian painted yellow and black, the Russian red and green.

PAINT is now arriving in Norway in such quantity that barns and houses will soon look gay again.



SWEDEN

THE NECESSITY OF MAINTAINING that unity of spirit and of action which alone can guarantee the peace of the world is perhaps the most important lesson to be drawn from our twenty years of Geneva experience, Östen Undén, Swedish Foreign Minister, who often represented his country in the old League of Nations, said in his address before the United Nations General Assembly on September 19. "No change of the Charter, no ingenious redrafting of paragraphs—the practical application of which, as experience has shown, has often been unsatisfactory—can replace the essential condition for peace, which is harmonious cooperation among the great powers." Mr. Undén further called attention to the fact that the United Nations has from the beginning attained a higher degree of universality than the old League. He hoped, however, that the Assembly would try to apply this principle as fully as possible. "The United Nations is meant to be a truly universal organization, a body fully representative of the whole world, and I think that we would act in the best and the most generous spirit of the Charter if we could agree to open the doors to all the nations now waiting for admission. Let us be generous. Generosity is essential in all human life and not least in international life." The question of a more effective use of the services of the Secretariat was also raised

by Sweden's spokesman. "It seems to me that it would be a healthy sign of confidence if the Assembly would decide to recommend that the various Councils and Committees make greater use of the services of the Secretariat." In this connection, Mr. Undén paid warm tribute to the late President Roosevelt, the "father of the United Nations." He recalled that President Roosevelt wanted to give the Secretary-General of the U.N. the title Moderator, in order to stress the exceptional importance of his high offices and the moderating and conciliating influence he has to exercise.

UNDER THE CAPTION, "A Turning Point for the United Nations," the Liberal Stockholm morning paper *Dagens Nyheter* commented editorially on Secretary of State Marshall's address before the U.N. General Assembly. "The meeting just opened must become a turning point for the international security organization. This opinion is generally held in the United States, whose foremost spokesman is the country's chief delegate, Secretary of State Marshall. Mr. Marshall stands out among the leading statesmen, not only because of America's enormous resources but also because he has a clear view on the peace crisis and a constructive will to action. President Roosevelt once said that ninety per cent. of humanity desires peace. That part of humanity today stands behind the Anglo-Saxon powers in the United Nations. A collective will of this scope and size is of great avail. The important thing is to channel the expression into an active peace policy. This the United States is determined to do, and this is the purport of the action which Mr. Marshall forecast in his address before the General Assembly."

SIXTY GERMANS from the American and British zones in Germany, the majority teachers and others concerned with popular education, have attended a five-week course in democratic education at the Åsa Folk High School, near Norrköping. Af-

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ter the course the Germans were distributed in pairs at schools all over Sweden where, with the help of Swedish colleagues, they will learn the working methods of the Folk High Schools. The course was financed by the Swedish Joint Committee for Promoting Democratic Ideas. Last year the Government made a grant of two million kronor for cultural rehabilitation work. Of this sum, 90,000 kronor were set aside for the purpose of re-educating German teachers along democratic lines, and it is this plan which has now been realized.

IN SEPTEMBER the Government appointed a special export and import board which will make the plans for the country's imports and exports. In view of the present lack of balance in this trade, the new committee will employ every means to increase exports. Special efforts will be made to provide Sweden with exchange, of which there is a scarcity. The committee will also reconsider the country's import needs and on this basis work out a new import plan. The list of products and articles which can be imported into Sweden without a special import license was drastically cut. On the list remained some chemical products, lumber, pulp and waste paper, printed matter, sheet music, and foreign literature.

THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN in the Stockholm schools has increased one hundred per cent. in the last ten years. About sixty per cent. of the youngsters receive a free meal daily, served in the school. Many other social pedagogic benefits have been instituted, such as free textbooks and free dental care and medical examination. The one great difficulty is the lack of sufficient space. Unless permits for new school buildings are soon granted, grave consequences are feared for the educational program.

KING GUSTAF OF SWEDEN will have reigned forty years on December 8. It

was on that day, in 1907, that he succeeded his father, King Oscar II, to the throne. An elaborate jubilee program has been prepared. A special postage stamp was designed by the noted artist Einar Forseth, and a commemorative coin. In the evening citizens from every walk of life will gather in the courtyard of the royal palace to pay homage to their venerable and beloved monarch.

SWEDEN'S LARGEST BRIDGE will soon be inaugurated. It is located within the limits of Stockholm and will be known as the Skanstullsbron. The total cost will exceed 8.5 million kronor, and if the vehicle approaches are included, the sum will be 19 million kronor. Having a total length of about 1,750 feet, construction requirements have included 2,100 tons of structural steel and 23,000 cubic meters of concrete.

THE SWEDISH PRE-FABRICATED FRAME HOUSES that were shown at the recent home exhibition in Paris were awarded the Grand Prix by the jury. The Stockholm department store, Nordiska Kompaniet, received the same honor for its furniture and furnishings, while Gustaf Kähr, a specialist in floor construction and design, was given an honorary mention.

THE MEAN TEMPERATURE for the Stockholm area for the months May to August was the highest since 1811. The weather in the rest of the country was also unusually warm. Since very little rain fell, the wells dried up and the water situation, especially on the west coast, became precarious. From northernmost Sweden it was reported that the water level in several of the big rivers was the lowest in the memory of man.

AN INFANTILE PARALYSIS VACCINE, which promises to afford protection against the disease, is in the process of being perfected by the Swedish scientists,

Professors The Svedberg and Arne Tiselius and Dr. Sven Gard. Experiments will now have to be continued on monkeys before the vaccine can be tested on human beings. The three distinguished research workers have been carrying on their investigations for seven years, chiefly at the Physio-Chemical Institute at Upsala. Their experiments have been made possible by grants from the King Gustaf V 80th Anniversary Fund. The three scientists stressed, however, that the results so far made public are in the nature of so-called "model experiments."

TWENTY-EIGHT old Swedish naval vessels, in all 17,000 tons, will be scrapped. They are superannuated veterans, although during the war emergency they were again pressed into service on neutrality patrol along the Swedish coast, owing to lack of modern tonnage in sufficient quantity. They include the armored coastal defense vessel "Äran" and the torpedo cruiser "Örnen." The latter, launched in 1896, was at the time one of the world's fastest ships of her class; during her trial she did 20 knots. Among other ships to be scrapped are two of the four destroyers that were purchased from Italy during the war.

WITH THE CLEANING UP of the waters around the Falsterbo Canal, in southwesternmost Sweden, it can be said that Sweden's share in the international mine sweeping work is finished, recently stated Commander Anders Forshell, inspector general of the Swedish mine detail. Every square meter of the strategic Falsterbo area, located in the southern Baltic, directly across from Denmark, has been swept not less than sixteen times. The total distance traveled by Swedish mine sweepers is equal to a distance three times around the globe.

ELECTRICITY is now rationed in Sweden, a consequence of the long drought in great parts of the country. The supply of

electricity to certain industries was rationed from September 15, while the rationing scheme for households and other consumers came into effect on October 15. Electric heating of water, floodlighting, and the use of neon lights are prohibited.

MORE THAN 27,000 PERSONS last summer visited "Märbacka," the ancestral home of the late Selma Lagerlöf. The visitors came from many different parts of the world. Last year their number was 19,000.

DURING THE FIRST YEAR of operations, the Scandinavian Airlines System made 472 trans-Atlantic flights, 415 on the North Atlantic route, and 57 on the South Atlantic. The seven DC-4's of the company carried a total of 12,126 passengers. The weight of the cargo was about 430,000 pounds, while approximately 215,000 pounds of mail were flown.

EUGEN NAPOLEON NICOLAUS, Hereditary Prince of Sweden and Duke of Närke, King Gustaf's youngest brother and noted as a landscape painter, died at his Stockholm home, Valdemarsudde, in the morning of August 18. Born August 1, 1865, he was a few days over 82 years old. In addition to King Gustaf, his surviving brothers are Prince Carl, age 86, and Prince Oscar Bernadotte, who is almost 88. Besides being a prince and a painter, Prince Eugen was a man of great erudition and culture, who did much to elevate public taste in art, music, and also literature. Many struggling young painters and sculptors were aided and encouraged by him. "Many of his traits," wrote editorially *Dagens Nyheter*, "earned for him the title of a good citizen; that is his highest honor." *Stockholms-Tidningen* said that "for many years Prince Eugen was the natural center of the Swedish world of art. Without gestures he supported numerous young artists and helped them during their difficult years." The Government organ, *Morgon-Tidningen*

said, "With his resources, his artistry and general attitude, he created an atmosphere which properly gave him a respected place in contemporary Swedish civilization."

Royal relatives from Denmark and Norway as well as Sweden attended his funeral on August 25. Despite his 89 years, King Gustaf himself had returned from his summer home, Solliden, on the Baltic island of Öland. From Norway, Crown Prince Olav and his wife, Crown Princess Martha, a niece of the Prince had come, and from Denmark, Prince George, a grand-nephew. Archbishop Erling Eidem of Sweden conducted the service. In a note the Prince had asked that no eulogies be delivered and he had also prescribed that the coffin should be draped in his three-tongued royal flag which for so many years had waved over his Stockholm home. "The fact that it is weather-beaten makes no difference," he had written. After cremation, his ashes were interred on a little promontory projecting into the Stockholm harbor where his house was situated and where he spent the greater part of his life. The place is surrounded by shady elm trees and lilac bushes.

THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW will publish an article about the art of Prince Eugen.

Besides donating his home and his art collection to the Swedish government, entrusting it to the care of the City of Stockholm as a private museum, Prince Eugen

left 50,000 kronor to the Artists' Aid Fund and made a number of personal bequests. His will then decreed that the residue should be divided among his nephews and nieces and the great-grandchildren of King Gustaf.

DURING A GLIDER FLIGHT performed in July in severe cold weather as well as passing through a violent thunderstorm, a Swedish army lieutenant, Per Axel Persson, reached an altitude of 29,000 feet with an estimated gain in elevation of 24,800 feet, which is 4,300 feet higher than the nine-year-old world record of 22,565 feet which was set in 1938 by a German named Erwein Ziller.

ABOUT 93,000 TELEPHONES were installed in Sweden in 1946, or more than in any previous year. In spite of the increased production capacity of the telephone manufacturing plants, about 15,000 new subscribers could not be supplied.

THE NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS now living in Sweden, who have a residence permit of at least three months, is almost 100,000, according to the Aliens Commission. This figure does not include tourists or Finnish so-called "foster children" who have found temporary shelter in the homes of Swedish families. The aliens are mostly refugees or persons seeking employment, who intend to stay in the country for some time. The majority—26,000—are Balts, followed by 16,000 Danes and 10,000 Norwegians. The Finnish children harbored number 17,000.



Scandinavians in America

THE DANISH Academy of Technical Sciences made its 1946 award of the Valdemar Poulsen Gold Medal to the distinguished American scientist, Dr. E. F. W. Alexanderson, first of all because of his design and construction of a high frequency generator on the same basic principle as the ordinary alternating current generator. Dr. Alexanderson was born in Sweden, but has carried out his radio research in the United States where he is now Chief Engineer of the General Electric Co. in Schenectady.

King Frederik IX of Denmark has made J. Christian Bay, Librarian of the John Crerar Library in Chicago, a commander of the Dannebrog. Throughout his career Mr. Bay has been a brilliant, sensitive, and affectionate interpreter of Danish science, literature, and thought to the American public.

Trygve Hammer, designer and sculptor of the William Henry Schofield Library of the Foundation in New York, died June 28 at the age of 69. He was born in Arendal, Norway. Among his works are the restaurants of the Waldorf Astoria. He carved a viking desk in black oak which is willed to the Foundation. His decorative illustrations will continue to appear in THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW.

Mrs. Borgny Hammer, the well-known Norwegian-American actress and perhaps the greatest interpreter of Ibsen in America, died August 10 at her home, "Hammershoi" in South Kent, Connecticut. Mrs. Hammer was born in Bergen in 1878, and made her debut at Bergens Nationale Scene in 1895. After several successful seasons in Christiania she emigrated with her husband Rolf Hammer and five children to the United States in 1910. "The Norwegian Theatre" in Chicago, which presented several of the

works of the modern Norwegian dramatists, was the result of her art and enterprise. In 1918 she gave Ibsen performances throughout the country at schools and universities, and was thereafter for two years head of the Department of Dramatics at the Carnish School of Music in Seattle. After 1920 she lived at South Kent, but almost yearly she went on tour with her presentations of Ibsen's and Björnson's plays. She was instrumental in the formation of "The Norwegian Theatre" in Brooklyn in 1924, which under her leadership and guidance enjoyed many successful seasons. In 1927 she staged and played in Björnson's *Over Evne* for the Theatre Guild in New York, and the following year she was the central figure in the performances in New York to commemorate the centenary of Ibsen's birth. In 1935 she set out on her last national tour, during which one South Dakota paper wrote, "Madame Hammer fully justified her ranking as the foremost Ibsen actress of the day." Her company, "Borgny Hammers teater," staged a Ronald Fangen play in 1937. She was in Norway on a vacation trip when war broke out in 1940, but returned to the U.S. in the late spring. Her last public appearance was at the Norwegian Club in Brooklyn in December 1945 marking the 50th anniversary of her theatrical debut.

Mr. Per G. Stensland, Lecturer in Swedish in Columbia University is giving three courses in Swedish this year. A number of grants-in-aid for the study of Swedish are available, awarded by the Director of the School of General Studies.

The University of Lund singers concluded a successful American tour last spring under the leadership of Cathedral Chapel Master Josef Hedar. Most successful were their concerts in Chicago, Omaha, Minneapolis, Rockford, Cleveland, and Boston.

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THE AMERICAN SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION

*For better intellectual relations between the American and Scandinavian peoples,
by means of interchange of students, publications, and a Bureau of Information*

ESTABLISHED BY NIELS POULSON, IN 1911

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Present Fellows

ROBERT ANDERSEN and EVA KNARDAHL (in private life Mrs. Andersen), Honorary Fellows from Norway, have also been appointed Honorary Fellows of the University of Minnesota. This entitles them to use the facilities of the university's music department and to take part in classroom instruction on a scholarship basis. Mr. Andersen is a violinist and his wife plays the piano.

GUNNAR BJERRROME, Honorary Fellow from Sweden, is studying International Relations at the New School for Social Research. He has been awarded the Agnes Brown Leach Fellowship there.

The Psi Upsilon Fraternity at Bowdoin College has offered to furnish board for OLAF HANSSON, Honorary Fellow from Denmark, and the college has awarded him a tuition scholarship.

ANDERS MOEN, Honorary Fellow from Denmark, has been awarded a full scholarship in Business Administration at Bowling Green State University. He is a graduate of the Handelshøjskolen in Copenhagen.

FINN SAMAL, Honorary Fellow from Norway, is attending the Fred Archer School of Photography in Los Angeles. A graduate of the Trondheim Handelsgymnasium, he is especially interested in portrait and color photography. The school has awarded him a tuition scholarship.

The Wisconsin State Association of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society has given ANNE-MARIT SLETTEN, Honorary Junior Scholar from Norway, a scholarship of \$1000 to study Education in the United States. She has been studying at Milwaukee-Downer College in Milwaukee.

SONJA TORNVALL, Honorary Fellow from Sweden, is studying psychology at Pennsylvania State College where she has a scholarship covering tuition and partial maintenance. She attended the University of Stockholm before coming to this country.

Several exchange fellowships have been worked out for the current academic year. The University of Kansas has accepted KARL-INGMAR EDSTRAND, Fellow from Sweden, in exchange for LOIS THOMPSON

who will study at the University of Stockholm. HUGO O. ANDERSSON has been accepted on an exchange basis by Duke University, whose candidate will be chosen later for study in Sweden. ELNA LINBORG is attending the University of Stockholm in exchange with LARS GURMUND who studied at Columbia University last year, and DOROTHY GUENTHER is at the University of Uppsala, whose exchange student, MRS. ERNA ÅHNEBRINK, did research work at the University of Pennsylvania in 1946-1947.

The Marsden Foundation for Gifted Youth in Palm Springs, California, has made generous awards to five Honorary Fellows of the Foundation. These grants are made on the basis of outstanding intellectual ability and cover scholarships for one to five years of study. They have been awarded to MARION BOCKELIE of Norway who is studying music; ROLV ENGE, one of our Tronstad Fellows from Norway last year, who is continuing his work at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Architecture; ERIC JACOBSEN and PER KOFSTAD of Denmark; and MAREN-SOFIE RØSTVIG from Norway, who is studying English and American Literature at the University of California in Los Angeles. Miss Røstvig is the editor of "The Monthly Magazine."

The Department of Horticulture of the College of Agriculture at the University of Idaho has granted research assistantships to two Honorary Fellows of the Foundation. EJNER LARSEN of Denmark is specializing in potato production and KAARE AAMLID of Norway is concentrating on problems of vegetable production.

Former American Fellows

Rear Admiral EDWARD HANSON SMITH, American Fellow to Norway 1924-1925, is at present Commander, Third Coast Guard District and Captain of the Port of New York. His work, immediately preceding the war, brought him to the east and west coasts of Greenland, which

were cruised as far north as the Arctic Ocean ice packs permitted. Information regarding the coastal waters and the ice navigation of Greenland was collected and prepared in a classified publication which proved of tremendous military value when this country entered the war.

The Secretary of the Navy has awarded Admiral Smith the Distinguished Service Medal.

"I have always been grateful for the opportunity offered me by the fellowship in oceanography awarded me in 1924 by The American-Scandinavian Foundation, which training has been so valuable to me in protecting human life and shipping at sea," stated the Admiral in a recent letter to the Foundation.

DR. JOHN RANDOLPH HUFFMAN, American Fellow to Denmark, 1929-1930, has been engaged throughout the war on the vital "Manhattan Project" with Professor Harold Clayton Urey. He is now doing research work on atomic energy at the Clinton Laboratories, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Formerly a professor of Chemical Engineering at New York University, Dr. Huffman will also be remembered as National Fencing Champion and a member of the Olympic Teams of 1928, 1932, and 1936.

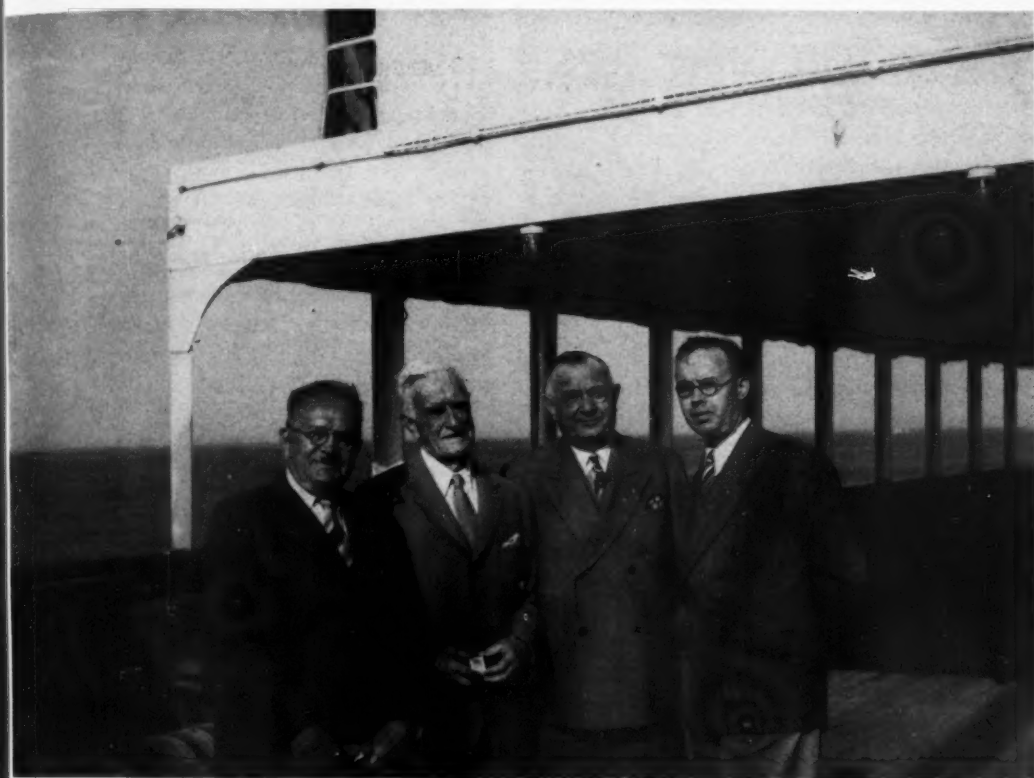
DR. E. FRANKLIN FRAZIER, American Fellow to Denmark, 1921-1922, is one of the nation's foremost Negro sociologists. Currently professor of sociology at Howard University, Washington, D.C., Dr. Frazier was Director of the Economic and Social Survey of Harlem for Mayor LaGuardia's Commission on Conditions in Harlem, 1935-1936, and is now president of the Eastern Sociological Society. He is the author of several books on race relations.

DR. CLIFFORD SHATTUCK LEONARD, who was Fellow in Chemistry to Sweden in 1920-1921, has recently joined the staff of Lakeside Laboratories, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as Chief Biologist in

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FOUR FOUNDATION MEN ON THE ATLANTIC

From left to right: Mr. Carl Norman, recently retired director of circulation of the REVIEW after twenty-nine years on the Foundation's staff; Captain John A. Gade, former President of The American Scandinavian Society and Trustee of the Foundation for many years; Mr. Oscar A. Lenna of Jamestown, New York, donor of the Lenna Fellowships of the Foundation; Professor Francis J. Bowman, Fellow of the Foundation to Sweden 1928-1929 and Former President of the Southern California Chapter. These men met on the Gripsholm

charge of pharmacological research and biological control. Dr. Leonard was formerly Assistant Professor of Pharmacology at the College of Medicine, University of Vermont, Burlington.

DR. ANDREAS G. RONHOVDE, American Fellow in Government to Norway in 1939, has just resigned from the State Department where he was Assistant Chief, Division of Northern European Affairs since 1944. He has returned to his position as Associate Professor of Political Science at Montana State Univer-

sity, from which he was on leave during the war.

ROBERT O. THOMPSON, American Fellow to Denmark 1925-1926, who served with the U.S. Engineers as a camouflage expert in the defense of the Hawaiian Islands, is now practicing architecture in Honolulu. He writes, "I have many commitments on the 'boards'—among them the New Tripler General Hospital for the U.S. Army—a 360 acre site in the mountains back of Honolulu."

PAUL FJELDE, American Fellow to Denmark 1924-1925, is now assistant professor of Art at Pratt Institute, New York. Mr. Fjelde is conducting classes in three dimensional design. He is a fellow and a council member of the National Sculpture Society and maintains sculpture studios in New York City.

DR. SIGURD BERNHARD HUSTVEDT, American Fellow to Norway 1922-1923, is Professor of English at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is joint editor with Archer Taylor of the California Folklore Quarterly (now titled "Western Folklore Quarterly"), also joint author of *The Warning Drum*, Univ. of Calif. Press, 1944.

DR. EMIL D. W. HAUSER, American Fellow to Sweden 1925-1926, is now engaged in writing a number of papers on orthopedic subjects which have been published in various medical journals, and is working on a new edition of "Diseases of the Foot" for publication by W. B. Saunders within the next year.

DR. RALPH M. HIXON, American Fellow in Chemistry to Sweden 1919-1920, is now head of the Department of Chemistry, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa. He is a regular contributor to the American Chemistry Society Journal.

DR. ALEXANDER H. KRAPPE, Honorary American Fellow to Denmark in 1929-1930, has accepted the post of chargé de cours at the Franco-Belgian Institute (École Libre des Hautes Études) in New York. In 1945 he was awarded the Medal of Arts and Literature of the Hispanic Society of America.

S. FOSTER DAMON, American Fellow to Denmark 1920-1921, has been appointed Curator of the Harris Collection of American Poetry and Plays at Brown University. Dr. Damon with Robert Hill-mer translated the first *Book of Danish Verse*, now out of print, published by the Foundation.

EDWIN C. JAHN, former American Fellow in Forestry, now Professor of Forest Chemistry at Syracuse University, has published an article "Scandinavian Research Organizations" reprinted from *Paper Trade Journal*.

Former Fellows

Professor HENRY COMMAGER of Columbia University, former American Fellow to Denmark, is this year occupying the Pitt Chair of American History at Cambridge University.

Chicago Chapter

The Chicago Chapter ASF continued to assist field research students and placed several trainees with Chicago corporations. The Chapter secured three scholarships for Norwegian students at Smith College, the National College of Education, and Colorado State College. It assisted also in placing three Finnish students who received scholarships at Bryn Mawr and Stout Institute. The Chapter is co-operating with the local Chicago Committee of The Swedish Pioneer Centennial Association in planning Chicago participation in the centennial festivities.

Minnesota Chapter

The Chapter has now been incorporated with a state charter. March 11 the following directors of the Chapter met in St. Paul and adopted the Certificate of Incorporation: C. R. Magney (of Duluth, Supreme Court justice), Theodore G. Blegen (Dean of the University of Minnesota), K. Valdimar Bjornson (of Icelandic descent), Walfrid H. Peterson (pre-war Chapter Secretary), Roy W. Swanson, Norman E. Biorn, and Louis W. Hill, Jr. The following were unanimously elected directors: Dr. Donald J. Cowling, Dr. Charles W. Mayo, E. L. Tvetene, and Alrik Gustafson. Mr. E. L. Tvetene is Secretary and Treasurer.

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Main Facts About Sweden. By Naboth Hedin. *The American Swedish News Exchange*. 1947. 80 pp. Price 25 cents.

This is a twenty-five-dollar booklet for twenty-five cents. It is a must book for anyone curious about Sweden. It is an encyclopedia without a headache. The introductions to background, politics, foreign relations, economics, industries, social system, arts and inventions, folk customs, and tourist sensations are in a limpid English prose that reminds one of a sound track or a glass of ramlösa. The bibliography takes one easily to the nearest library. This booklet is a model for the introduction to any nation's civilization, whether Basque or Afghanistan.

My Danish Father. By Karl Eskelund. *Doubleday*. 1947. 255 pp. Price \$2.50.

If you want to write a best seller go to Lake Atitlan in Guatemala—perhaps the world's beauty spot—give your father a draught of the native Olla and ask him to tell you the story of his life. That is what happened to Mr. Eskelund. His father was a Copenhagen dentist who emigrated to carry on his profession in Siam and China. He was somewhat confused about women but not about dentistry nor about his generous passion to make as many hundreds of patients as comfortable as possible. His observation of persons of many nationalities is a combination of Danish and American humor, and the two are not unlike. I was going to write that *My Danish Father* is the most spirited romance since *Mr. Wilmer*. It is, in fact, not that good, but there is not a dreary page in the book.

American Relief for Norway. By A. N. Rygg. Chicago. 1947. 320 pp.

This book is a record of the nation-wide relief work for Norway during and after the second World War undertaken by Americans of Norse descent, written by one of their most indefatigable leaders and executives. Directly or under their sponsorship there was contributed to Norway from America in food, clothing, medicine, dwellings, and many other necessities a grand total estimated at \$31,757,031.23. The work is copiously illustrated, and will remain an important historical document.

Spoken Norwegian. By Einar Haugen. *Henry Holt*. 1944. Complete course (including text and 25 12-inch records): \$50.00. Text alone: \$3.50. Records alone: \$47.00.

Availing himself of the new methods of language instruction first introduced by the

LONGFELLOW AND SCANDINAVIA

*A Study of the Poet's Relationship
with the Northern Languages and
Literature*

ANDREW HILEN

Many readers of Longfellow know that he spent the summer of 1835 in Scandinavia, but few recognize the significance of the journey. This volume is at once a detailed account of the poet's Scandinavian experience and an analysis of its influence on his intellectual life and poetical development. As evidence of this influence many hitherto unpublished records are included, and Longfellow's entire Scandinavian journal appears for the first time in print. Mr. Hilen has also compiled a bibliography of the 380-odd volumes of Scandinaviana now preserved in the Longfellow House in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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NEW HAVEN CONNECTICUT

United States Armed Forces Institute during the war Professor Haugen has created a standard work for the study of Norwegian, which only just recently has been released for civilian use. Professor Haugen's application of this system of teaching began in June 1943, when he organized the first course in Norwegian for American soldiers under the Army Specialized Training Program.

The book consists of model conversations interspersed by translations, explanations and word lists, and is designed to cover a hundred hours of language study. Each lesson is ideally accompanied by a phonograph record which repeats words, phrases, and sentences at proper intervals for class drills. The explanations of grammatical points are simple, comprehensive, and always in colloquial style, while perhaps the greatest virtue of the book is the vivid and practical nature of the conversational exercises.

Karen. By Borghild Dahl. Random House. 1947. 313 pp. Price \$2.50.

This is an absorbing and heartwarming story for young people, especially for girls who are tired of being told "it's a man's world" and of reading about the wonderful male heroes who helped build America.

Here is a young woman, Karen of Norway, who emigrated to the United States in 1870 with a one-way ticket to Dubuque, Iowa, in her pocket and hope and high purpose in her heart. Starting as a cook at one dollar a week wages, she eventually, through hard work, imagination and resourcefulness, becomes a leader in the community in which she lived.

Karen marries a young Norwegian musician and travels with him to the Dakota Territory to make her home on the prairie. All their savings are gone in buying the land, but nothing can discourage Karen. The first thing she does on their arrival is to bake twenty loaves of bread for the grocer in the little one-horse town of Prairieapolis. For the bread she gets a gun, food, and soap—lots of soap. Already she has conquered the West. Karen's good cooking continues to save many a tense situation!

The story is full of adventure and excitement, with Karen in the thick of it at all times. The author's style is clear and active, and the character of Karen is drawn with understanding. Practical, earnest, and deeply religious, Karen, nevertheless, believes in fairies, as so many Scandinavians do. I wouldn't be at all surprised if the fairies of Norway and Sweden had a large part in the building of our own Middle West!

ANNIS LEACH YOUNG

9 Lives Before Thirty. By Max Manus. Doubleday. 1947. 328 pp. Price \$3.00.

The two books on which the present volume is based, *Det vil helst gå godt* and *Det blir alvor*, were published in Norway a year or two ago and achieved instantaneously widespread popularity as they gave the Norwegian public



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Illustrated throughout with 200 exhilarating drawings by Hans Baumhauer.

550 pages, \$5.00

At all bookstores,
PANTHEON BOOKS, INC.,
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a first-hand account of the work of the Underground during the war by one of its most daring operators. These two books have now been translated, condensed, and edited with the collaboration of Dorothy Giles, and published in one volume under the above rather incongruous title.

Max Manus, who was one of the leaders of Kompani Linge and "The Oslo Gang," was instrumental in executing many of the successful coups of the Underground in and around Oslo, with his most daring efforts being directed toward sabotage of shipping in Oslo harbor—efforts which culminated in the sinking of the German troop carrier "Donau." The schemes, exploits, infrequent failures, and nerve-tingling escapes under the noses of the Gestapo make for exciting reading; also, how the connecting links between the Oslo saboteurs, the authorities in London, and their representatives in Stockholm were maintained forms an interesting sidelight to the main story.

The objection will no doubt be made that the author succumbs to the temptation of most autobiographers to overestimate the importance and consequences of his own deeds; at any rate, Manus will not be accused by anyone of excessive modesty. What is more unfortunate, the material is badly organized and presented in a disconnected manner, and there appear also in the book some errors of historical facts which easily might have been avoided if more care had been exercised in the writing and editing.

ERIK J. FRIIS

Can Science Save Us? By George A. Lundberg. Longmans, Green. 1947. 122 pp. Price \$1.75.

George Lundberg, professor of sociology at the University of Washington, poses the above question and proceeds to answer it affirmatively, but with the important qualification that we must not expect physical science to be able to solve social problems. The author ascribes the ills of the world today to the fact, as Dr. Hutchins of the University of Chicago has pointed out, that "the world has reached at one and the same moment the zenith of its information, technology and power over nature and the nadir of its moral and political life." While mankind has eagerly accepted new ideas and new techniques in the physical sciences, we have been loath to discard the traditional and now outmoded thoughtways in the realm of the social sciences. What then is the way out of this predicament? While it is the physical sciences that must accept the responsibility for having brought us where we are today, it will be the lot of the social sciences to save the world from its present-day trying conditions. In the words of the author: "Scientists in general are finally awakening to the fact that unless the social sciences are developed our net reward for the development of the other sciences may be destruction."

Sociology and the other social sciences may be able to avert this complete breakdown of



Norwegian BOOKS

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our civilization, but only if social scientists apply the scientific method to their science, and time, money and effort are expended on social research. Science, of and by itself, can only chart the way, offer alternatives for action, and foretell what will happen under certain conditions; it is for scientific method and research to evaluate correctly the alternatives for social action and for a better educated public to make an intelligent choice. Here Professor Lundberg touches on a sore spot, which in reality is an indication of the low estate of the social sciences in the world today, and a serious indictment of modern civilization: "To be qualified to pull a tooth or remove an appendix, we require people to study systematically for seven or eight years beyond high school. To keep nations from flying at each others' throat, any political hack will do."

Only by substituting research for moralizing, by attempting to develop the social sciences on a par with the physical sciences, and by devising and applying new scientific methods in the field of human relations will society be able to solve many of the problems that confront it today.

Professor Lundberg has written a valuable and thought-provoking book, which we hope will find its way not only into the hands that rule nations, but also to physical and social scientists, students of sociology and related sciences, and the general public.

ERIK J. FRIIS

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